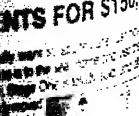
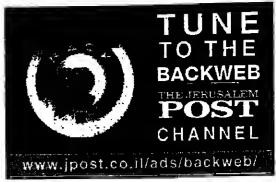
AROUND THE WORLD





THE JERUSALEM



VOLUME LXV. NUMBER 19759

MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1997 • TISHREI 26, 5758 • 25 JAMAD THANI 1418

NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.85)

The New Hork Times

8-page supplement



Villeneuve wins Formula One crown

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The ugliness of the kitchen-sink drama

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Primakov: We aren't arming Iran Late-night

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov denied yesterday that Moscow is helping Iran build a ballistic missile arsenal. Regardless of that statement

and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahn's insistence that Israeli intelligence indicates to the contrary, the twn governments say they intend to tighten their relations and work together toward Middle East peace.

With Netanyaho standing at his side at the end of a one-on-one session that went overtime, Primakov said, "Russia is not doing anything that would

Israel doesn't expect Russia to yield on Iran, Page 3

advance Iran toward possession of weapons of mass destruction." Declaring that Russia adheres

to UN agreements against the proliferation of missile technology, Primakov said "neither technology nor materials of any kind that could be used in the manufacture of weapons of mass destruction" are being provided

With regard to Lebanoo, Primakov confirmed Russia's willingness to participate in the multipational commission monitoring violations of the Operation Grapes of Wrath cease-fire, but



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu (left) welcomes Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov to his office yesterday. (Isaac Harari)

ruled out the deployment of Russian troops in the security zone should Israel withdraw. In an earlier meeting with Foreign Minister David Levy, the Russian diplomat dismissed a

question about Moscow's involvement in the Iranian missile program as "baseless rumors.

But the prime minister countered unequivocally, saying, "we

are not in agreement on the factu-

In the final stage of the Netanyanu-Primakov meeting, OC Intelligence Branch Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon entered the

Prime Minister's Office carrying an attache case that presumably contained evidence of Iran's mis-

sile buildup. See IRAN, Page 14

effort on conversion compromise

and LIAT COLLINS

Representatives of the Reform and Conservative movements seemed last night on the verge of accepting a government proposal to delay submitting petitions to the High Court over registering their converts as Jews and seating repre-

sentatives on religious councils. Leaders from both movements held marathon conference calls late into the night with their US peers to decide wbether to accept a government compromise.

The proposal calls for Reform and Conservative leaders to postpone their petitions in exchange for the government bolding back Knesset bills demanded by religious parties that would essentially outlaw non-Orthodox conversions and exclude the non-Orthodox from religious councils.

Government proposals, as drawn up by the Neeman Committee, also,

call for setting up a central institute to which conversion candidates from all religious streams would be sent. Final conversions would be

A guide to the perplexed,

carried out by an Orthodox rabbini-

The guidelines also provide for Reform and Conservative rabbis to conduct recognized marriages in Israel in the presence of two witnesses from the Chief Rabbinate.

Reform and Conservative leaders said a factor toward accepting the compromise was the presence of more moderate rabbis of the religious kibbutz movement at the Neeman Committee meeting last night.

See EFFORT, Page 2

Levy-Abbas talks in Washington postponed

By JAY BUSHINSKY and STEVE RODAK

Foreign Minister David Levy confirmed yesterday that the US-sponsored talks in Washingtoo that were to include him and the Palestinian Authority's Mahmond Abbas, will have to be Authority's put off. They were due to begin

Wednesday. For me to travel there bas to be a thorough discussion with the prime minister and the cabinet," Levy said, answering questions put to him after be met his Russian cnunterpart, Yevgeny Primakov.

The purpose of these meetings would be to produce guidelines for negotiation and "parameters" on such issues as further redeplnyment and curtailment of settlement activity. Levy is insisting that he be given a mandate to allow for Israeli concessions.

Levy will meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu today, and according to the

TASE

slumps 3%

sion will be held on Wednesday. This would make it impossible for Levy to be in Washington

before the end of the week. Palestinian sources contend the State Department has bad second thoughts about hosting the projected Israeli-Palestinian meeting because of persistent dnubts that it will produce positive results.

The fact that Secretary of State

Madeleine Albright - wbn is to participate in the talks - is due to attend the Wurld Econnmic Furum in Qatar on November 5 may prevent her from hosting Levy and Abbas until well after PA officials said until the

Israelis clarify their position and Levy's participatinn in the meeting is assured, Palestinian negotiators will stay home. "We might nnt gn to Washington because Levy might

not go to Washington," PA negotiator and Local Government Minister Saeb Erekat said. "Levy

such. If they want to take us fur a ride to Washington, they'd better nnt dn it."

Erekat said Levy's hesitation in leaving for Washington is proof that Netanyahu does not intend to negotiate serioosly with the Palestinians.

"The honesty of Mr. Levy leaves no doubt that Mr. Netanyahn has nn intentinn of implementing the interim steps,' he said. "He enjnys the process nf meetings withnut anything

The PA minister said he did nnt know how long the talks would be postponed. PA sources expect the talks could begin next week.

Other PA nfficials said so far nn progress has been reported in the meetings of the nine committees formed to implement the interim accurds signed earlier this year. The deadlock, the nfficials said, include talks nver opening the airport and seaport in

Mubarak opens Nile-Sinai canal

Shares were sharply lower yesterday on the Tel Aviv Stock CAIRO (Reuters) - Egyptian President Hosni Mnbarak opened Exchange, in the first trading sesa new canal yesterday to carry sion since world markets went on Nile water beneath the Suez Canal the decline following the Hong to irrigate the arid Sinai peninsula. He pushed a button to send water flooding through four Suez tunnels into the Sinai, where planners say it will eventually irrigate

to resettle there.

The project, partly financed by

Mubarak's government is push-

ing ambitious projects to water the

seams with around 16 million peo-

Kuwait, cost more than \$1.62 bil-

"Basically it's looking very, very fragile," said Danielle Finn, head of sales at Ilanot Betucha.

The benchmark Mishtanim index of top shares fell 3.33 percent, or 10.34 points, to 299.82 on a turnover of NIS 256 million, against NIS 188m. on Tuesday, the last day of trading before Simhat

The Maof bloe-chip index closed 3.03% lower, at 309.35. Full story, Page 10



land that is cultivable. The population, double what it was 50 years ago, is set to double again in the

next half-century.

"We are planning to increase the cultivated area by 1.36 million hectares by 2017." Hussein Atfy, undersecretary at the ministry of public works and water resources, 2,480 sq. kms of desert and allow Earlier this year, Mubarak gave 1.5 million Nile Valley residents

the go-ahead for work to start on the Toshka project in southwest Egypt near the Sudanese border. It calls for a canal to be dug from just upstream of the Aswan High Dam to irrigate 500,000 acres. The plan also provides for exploiting desert from Egypt's lifeline, the Nile, and build new towns to ground water from desert oases to enable another 500,000 acres to be relieve pressure on cities like

Cairo, already bursting at the Work is already under way tn carry Nile water to about 150,000

acres of desert in the northeast. Given the country's harsh demo-Experts say the government graphic arithmetic, it bas little choice Egypt has more than 60 must be careful not to rush into too many large-scale projects without million people and now spends being sure that enough water is about \$3 billion a year on food available from this limited imports to supplement what it can grow on the scant 5 percent of its

THE HAIFA (04) YELLOW PAGES IN ENGLISH



The Haifa Yellow Pages Directory in English will shortly be sent free of charge, by mail, to all Jerusalem Post subscribers in the 04 dialing area. It will also be available at all news stands in that area, on October 31, 1997.



in brief

Temple Mount terrorist released

Alan Goodman, a US-born man who was serving a life sentence for killing two Arabs on the Temple Mount, was released yesterday from Ayalon Prison, after his sentence was reduced and he agreed to move back to the US. He was taken directly to Ben-Gurion Airport, where he boarded a US-bound flight.

Goodman, who holds dual citizenship, must spend the next eight years in the US before he can return, under a deal reached earlier this month between his lawyer and the parole board. On April 11, 1982, Goodman opened fire on Arabs praying on the Temple Mount, killing two and wounding nine.

Temple Mount activists arrested

Seven members of the right-wing group Hai Vekayam were arrested by Jerusalem police yesterday for attempting to enter the Temple Mount compound. The seven were prevented by the police from praying there, as a crowd of Arabs gathered around them. The seven were arrested after they refused a request by

Hanegbi seeks to change extradition law

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi said yesterday that he plans to revise the extradition law which grants refuge in Israel to citizens accused of committing crimes abroad. At a briefing with legal affairs reporters, Hanegbi said that draft amendments have already been drawn up but weren't being introduced yet so as not to coincide with the current extradition case of a teenager wanted by Maryland as a murder suspect.

Haredi suspect held in Bar-llan beating

A 55-year-old baredi man was arrested yesterday as a suspect in an assault on a couple from Pisgat Ze'ev as they drove down Bar-Ilan Street in Jerusalem on Saturday.

The man and woman were beaten while inside the car by a

crowd of haredim, after they stopped to avoid running over a baredi man who tried to block their way. Both received medical treatment. Their identities were not released.

The suspect, who also was not identified, has admitted being linked to the assault, police said. They said that more arrests

EU to send delegation to Middle East

European Union foreign ministers agreed yesterday to send a delegation to the Middle East early next month to lend support to US efforts to break a deadlock in peace negotiations there, headed by Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos.
German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, who last week met

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Germany, called on Israel to end its policy of settling Jews in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which the EU ministers agreed violated

Symposium offers two views of Jerusalem

"The solution to Jerusalem is a simple, modified slogan borrowed from America," said MK Ze'ev Begin at a Jerusalem Foundation symposium held last night. "Jerusalem: One city, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Begin said the issue of Jerusalem is difficult, because of the false premise that most people believe all problems have solutions. "For now, Jerusalem is insoluble," he said.

His opponent at the symposium, entitled "Two Perspectives on the Future of Jerusalem" and chaired by Jerusalem Post president and publisher Norman Spector, was MK Yossi Beilin, who esponsed a more optimistic view on the capital's future. Elli Wohlgelernter

Clinton to meet with Peres, Leah Rabin

US President Bill Clinton will meet with Shimon Peres and Leah Rabin next month.

An aide to Rabin confirmed yesterday that she and Peres will present Clinton with an award from their peace foundation on November 21.

Meanwhile, White House spokesman Mike McCurry denied that Clinton was refusing to meet Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who will be in the US in mid-November.

PM: No pullback without anti-terror guarantees

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said yesterday that the government would object to handing over more land to Palestinian self-rule until it received guarantees that these areas wouldn't be used as terrorist bases.

Netanyahu also told the weekly cabinet session that while the Palestinian Authority has started to fight terrorism, "there has been a definite retreat" in several aspects

of its operations. The Prime Minister said a special cabinet session would be held Wednesday to discuss negotiations with the Palestinians before Foreign Minister David Levy's departure for talks he "may bold in

Washington." The element of doubt implicit in the cabinet communique prompted some Palestinian observers to doubt whether US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright would go ahead with plans to preside at a meeting between Levy and the PA's deputy

chairman, Mahmoud Abbas. "She does not want to sponsor a diplomatic failure," one of them

Turning to administrative matters, the cabinet approved the appointment of Acting Superintendent Yehuda Wilk as Inspector General of the police. Wilk will take up his new post on January 1.

Science and Technology Minister Michael Eitan proposed that the cabinet discuss data he submitted on incitement to violence and alleged calls for assassinating the prime minister.

Netanyahu responded by contending that there has been "a serious escalation in incitement by leftist elements in Israel" against the prime minister and the government. "At issue are expressions which

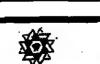
have no place in a proper democra-tic society," he said.

The cabinet communique did not give any examples of the alleged

inflammatory language. In other action, the cabinet: Appointed Shmuel Hershkowitz as director of the National Road

Safety Administration: ·Appointed Shmuel Einstein as director of the Rural Building and New Settlements Administration;

 Approved the Customs Cooperation Agreement between Israel and Turkey.



Jewish Agency for Israel

The World Zionist Organization

Our deepest condolences to

Ell and Moshe Amir

on the passing of their mother

MIRIAM 57

May you never know mogs sorrow

Charles (Corcky) Goodman Chairman of the Board of Governors

Avrehem Burg Chairman of the Executive



Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai leads OC Nortbern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine and other officers through (Avihu Shapira/Israel Sun)

By ELLI WOHLGELERNITER

A growing brouhaha over alleged building by the Walf on the Temple Mount seemed to have quieted down yesterday, after Minister of Internal Affairs Avigdor Kahalani was quoted as saying that the gov-emment would not allow the building, and would order the use of force

The Wakf was reportedly planning to build a new guard post by the Mugrabi Gate, as well as a new floor over the area of Solomon's "Nothing has been built, and noth-

ing has been tom down," said a ministry source, who added that if the Wakf wanted to repair an existing building, that would be permitted. "It's not a story, it's only been shouting on both sides," the source said.

Adnan Husseini, director of the Wakf (the Moslem religious trust),

EFFORT

Rabbinical authorities bave

previously rejected compromise,

and were suggesting a compro-

mise stance for the first time last

night, the Reform and

But their flexibility also fol-

lowed some stepped-up pressure

from Justice Minister Tzabi

Hanegbi, who threatened yesterday to present the religious

councils and conversion bills to

the Knesset today, if the High

Leaders of The Third Way and

Yisrael Ba'aliya parties, who had said in the past they would vote against religious legislation,

also indicated yesterday they

would vote for the bills if the

non-Orthodox movements did

not agree to the proposed freeze.

rabbis from the US and else-

where, led by Rabbi Amiel

Hirsch, head of Arza, the

Reform movement's Zionist arm

in the US, arrived yesterday and

met with Prime Minister

Binyamin Netanyahu on the

The rabbis told Netanyahu that passage of the Conversion Law,

which would give the Chief Rabbinate the authority to vali-

date all conversions carried out

in Israel and would thus invali-

date all non-Orthodox conver-

sions done in Israel, would be a

slap in the face to the American

Jewish community, which largely identifies with the Reform

The rabbis said that Netanyahu

told them the unity of the Jewisb

people is of ntmost importance

to him and that, just as he seeks

diversity in economics, he wants diversity in Jewisb expression.

However, Netanyahu also

reportedly told the rabbis that he needs time to achieve this goal. Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform Movement's Israel

Religious Action Committee, seemed less willing than others yesterday to accept the compro-

mise. He said the delays in court

action would serve the interests of the rabbinical establishment

and the religious parties, which

ARRIVALS

The Anti-Defamation League's Executive Mission including Abraham Fournan, National Director, Howard Berkowitz, National Chairman, Glen Tobiak, Chairman of the International Affairs Committee and Irwin Hochberg, Chairman of the Jerusalem Task.

and Conservative movements.

A top delegation of Reform

Court petitions went ahead.

Conservative leaders said.

accused interest groups with ulterior motives of misleading the government regarding the Wakf's inten-tions of building on the Temple Mount, and asked Kahalani to tone down his rhetoric. "The statements I heard from the

police minister were harsh and particularly unexpected," Husseini said on Israel Radio. They very much affected the Moslems, because the minister of police should have shown more sensitivity and used milder expressions with regard to inaccurate information that was given to him." Husseini denied any intention of building any new structures on the Temple Mount, but was just planning on renovating an existing building used by guards.

The whole issue became a story when a letter was leaked to the press from Antiquities Authority director Amir Drori to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, saying that the

their monopoly on religious

always been willing to delay any

action until the coming of the

Messiah in order to preserve the

Regev also said that converts

who had petitioned the court

would suffer as a result of the

The first High Court bearing, scheduled for Wednesday, would

hear a petition to seat Reform

and Conservative representa-

tives on the religious councils of

Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, and

Kiryat Tivon. Since the Court

bas already ruled that a Reform

representative could join the

Netanya religious council, it was

expected to make a similar rul-

ing on Wednesday.

Next week. the High Court is

due to receive the attorney-gen-

eral's response to a petition call-

ing for the registration as Jews

of adopted infants converted by

the Conservative Movement in

It was also due to rule on the

case of a woman who studied in

Israel and was then converted by

a Liberal rabbinical court in

London, and of two infants,

adopted abroad, who were con-

verted by the same rabbinical

court before being brought to

Israel. In all these cases the

Interior Ministry has refused to

Religious Fari, MKs were expected to meet this afternoon

to discuss a proposal by three

members to adopt the Neeman

register the converts as Jews.

Meanwhile.

statüs quo," Regev said.

delays.

"The religious parties have

new floor covering was both illegal and destructive, and that he recommended that it be forbidden to bring construction materials and workers to the Temple Mount.

The matter was brought up at the weekly cabinet meeting yesterday morning, when Minister of Absorption Yuli Edelstein asked Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Kahalani why the government had not done anything about the illegal building on the Temple Mount

Edelstein quoted Drori's letter, and warned the government that if it did not take a clear stand on the matter it was liable to lead to extreme Jewish groups taking the law into their own hands. Netanyahu then asked cabinet

secretary Dan Naveh to collect information on the matter, and to undate the government at a future cabinet meeting.

– Hanan Porat, Zvi Hendel, an

Shmarvahu Ben-Tsur - spoke of

a need to avoid creating a split

in the Jewish world and to find a

mutually acceptable solution

which would avert the need to

pass the conversion bill. Hendel

called the committee's work "an

bistoric opportunity to reach a

compromise among all streams

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this report.

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Her Excellency

Kazakhstan

Aik Rosenberg

Eran Forman

MRS. AITIMOVA

and the Embassy of

all the best on your

Independence Day

have been fighting to prevent Committee's recommendations

any changes that could endanger on the conversion bill. The MKs

killed in the raid.

IDF and South Lebanese Army soldiers yesterday repulsed what appears to have been an attempt by Hizbullah gunmen to try and overrun a position in the northeastern sector of the security

The foiled attempt follows a number of recent attacks in the same area by three or four Hizbullah squads.

By DAYID RUDGE

One of the aims of the gunmen in the activities around the Soujud outpost might have been to try and kidnap an IDF soldier, military sources reported.

A South Lebanese Army soldier was seriously wounded in the fighting, during which Hizbullah fired mortars, anti-tank missiles and machine guns at the post.

The attempt to approach the position, however, was thwarted by heavy return fire by IDF and SLA soldiers and gunners. Later, IAF warplanes struck at Hizbullah targets in the Soujud region with the pilots reporting

accurate hits. Earlier, IAF jets raided Ahmed Jibril's PFLP-General Command base at Nuemeh, south of Beirut, for the fourth time in recent days. Reports from Lebanon said an activist who worked as a male nurse for the organization was

IDF, SLA beat back

Hizbullah attack

The IDF Spokesman said that in both raids the pilots reported accurate hits and that all the planes returned safely to their

The air strike on the PFLP-GC base followed early morning bombardments by Hizbullah gun-men on over 15 IDF and SLA positions along the length of the security zone - from the coast to the foothills of Mt. Hermon.

There were no casualties in the long-range mortar and anri-tank missile attacks, which prompted heavy return fire from IDF and SLA gunners. The exchanges began around 6:30 a.m. and lasted for over two bours. Defense Minister Yitzhak

Mordecbai, accompanied by Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Sbahak visited a position on the northern border yesterday to receive first-hand reports of the situation in the security zone.

The visit is part of a general assessment that the security establishment is conducting this week of the overall situation in south Lebanon.

The assessment is carried out every six months but is likely to have more significance this time in light of the recent mishaps,

tragedies and high casualties suffered by the IDF. The IDF's methods of operation in the war against Hizbullah are expected to

be discussed along with other tactical and strategic issues. According to Channel 2 news, Shahak informed the cabinet yesterday that the IDF knows very little about the situation and has a

serious intelligence problem in trying to penetrate Hizbullah Mordechai was briefed by OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine and senior officers. He maintained that despite the recent series of incidents. there was no overriding problem.

He said that all the incidents were being thoroughly investigated and lessons learned were being implemented. Mordechai stressed that the aim was to minimize casualties while increasing the IDF's ability to hit Hizbullah.

Mordechai denied recent reports of tension between himself and Shahak, saying they were working together to tackle the problems.

Levine revealed that the IDF on Friday thwarted concerted attacks "three or four Hizbullah squads" whose primary aim was apparently to hit tanks and IDF troops "and perhaps even to try and kidnap a soldier."

Aide to Tirawi says lawyers can visit jail

By STEVE RODAN

A Palestinian Authority security official yesterday denied a reported ban on visits by attorneys to their clients in prisons operated by the PA General Intelligence Service.

There is no ban and those attorneys who want to visit can," a senior aide to General Intelligence Service Chief Col. Tawfiq Tirawi said. "Of course, you have to ask for permission and give us several days notice," He said that at no time did Tirawi halt such visits.

The aide said he was unfamiliar with the complaint made on Samrday by LAW, the Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and Environment. The Jerusalem-based group said Tirawi had told its director, Khader Shkirat,

that none of the attorneys could visit clients in the GIS prisons.

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The senior aide stressed that the GIS does respond to requests from Eyad Sarraj's group, the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights, which is aligned with the PA. Sarraj's organization does not issue reports or make public its investigations into alleged violations.

A prominent buman rights activist who did not want to be named said part of the problem stemmed from an intense rivalry between Palestinian human rights organizations, which receive financial support from abroad. The activist said the organizations do not cooperate and sometimes peddle misinformation as a way of highlighting their activity.

9:30 a.m., 9:00 p.m.

THE COURTS ADMINISTRATION THE ISRAEL SUPREME COURT

guided tours of the Israel Supreme Court building for the public, at 11 a.m. and 12 noon on Tuesday, October 28, 1997



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Thursday, October 30, 3,45 p.m. Prof. Helkki Ráisānen - Helsinki University Jesus between Christianity and Islam: Mohammed's Portrait of the Jewish Prophet

Thursday, November 6, 3.45 p.m. Prol. J. F. Backlanadan, Bangalore (India) Love in M. Gandhi's Life and Works - a Christian Experience

Tantur Institute is at the comer of Harosmarin Street and Hebron Road, on the way to Gillo and just north of the Bethlehem check-point. Turn south on Hebron Road, right on to Harosmarin and left through the Tantur gate. Parking near auditorium. Bus 30 stops at the gate. Bus 31 stops nearby.

The Jerusalem Post Monday, October 27, 1997

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The Jerusalem Po

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UC LECTURE

from Jews during World War II.

The semi-annual conference is sponsored

by the government, Tel Aviv University, with the participation of the AntiCongress and the Jewish Agency. David Rosen, director of the ADL office

in Israel, said the conference's aim was to keep Jews informed so they could "take the necessary steps to insure not only the well being of Jewish communities throughout the world, but also [so] that where anti-Jewish hatred is festering and developing it

The opening session this morning is enti-

allegedly held by Swiss banks.

Connection Between Extreme Islam and Radical Left," "The Use of the Internet by the Extreme Right, Fundamentalist Islam and Holocaust Denial," and "Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals and its Impact on Local

Guide to a religious controversy Likud may drop bid

Intensive negotiations were underway last night to try and defuse both a coalition crisis and a crisis with segments of Diaspora Jewry over the conversion and religious council laws.

What follows is a brief guide to the perplexed.

The Religious Council Law Prime Minister Binyamio Netanyahu pledged earlier this month, when faced with a threat by the religious parties, that the government would back a bill excluding Reform Conservative representatives from the country's religious councils immediately after the winter session of the Knesset opened.

By passing this legislation, the religious parties hope to pre-empt a High Court decision that may force the religious councils to seat Reform and Conservative representatives in Tel Aviv, Kiryat Tivon, Jerusalem and Haifa. The High Court hearing on this maner is scheduled for Wedoesday, which explains why the religious parties are eager to get the bill to the plenum as soon as possible.

In August the High Court ruled that Netanya must seat Joyce Brenner, a Reform representative. on its religious council. This ruling gave both the religious parties and the Reform and Conservative movements reason to believe that the court would also force the band of the Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Kiryat Tivon and Haifa councils.

The Conversion Law

The conversion law stipulates that all conversions in Israel be performed under Orthodox auspices. What this means practically is that oon-orthodox conversions performed in Israel would oot be recognized. The passage of the law was anchored in the government's coalition guidelines.

Although the law was spelled out in the coalition agreement, the religious parties said they would oot have pressed for passage of the law bad oot the Conservative and Reform movements petitioned the court to recognize their conversions in Israel. The religious parties fear that without legislation, the court will recognize the con-

The conversion law burst onto the country's agenda in a major way in June, as a June 30th hearing on a High Court petitioo regarding Reform and Conservative conversions was to be heard. A mini crisis ensued, defused by the creation of the Neeman committee, mandated to come up with a solution to the cooversion dilemma acceptable to Members of the emergency delegation of US Reform rabbis arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport last night.

all three streams of Judaism.

Neeman Committee

The Neeman committee is headed by Finance Minister Ya'acov Neeman and is made up of five representatives of the Orthodox camp, and one representative apiece from the Reform and Conservative movements. Under the terms of an agreement brokered by Likud MK Michael Eitan, the Reform and Conservative movements agreed to push off all their High Court petitions, and the religious parties agreed to freeze passage of the eonversion law until the Neeman committee came up with a solution. The original deadline for the committee was August 15, but was extended twice. Last Friday was the most recent deadline.

The committee's proposals included a central conversion institute under the auspices of

זדינת ישראל

ודינת כל בעם היהודי

BACKGROUND

By HERB KEINON

the Jewish Agency and run jointby the three streams of Judaism. The converts would go there for classes, but the actual conversion ceremony would be done by the Orthodox represen-

The committee also addressed the issue of Reform and Conservative marriages in Israel and developed a formula whereby those movement's rabbis could perform the marriages here if assisted by supervisors from the ehief rabbinate.

The Religious parties

The 23-member religious lobby, made up of the representatives of Shas, the National Religious Party, and United Torah Judaism, originally rejected the proposals out of hand. Shas MK Aryen Deri called them "horrible," and NRP MK Shaul Yahalom said it would have been better had they not been pro-

posed. Since then, however, there has been some softening of positions, with three NRP MKs - Hanan Porat, Shmaryahu Ben-Tzur and Zvi Hendel -- saying they would accept the proposals. The NRP is scheduled to hold a meeting on the issue today.

Reform and Conservative groups

The Reform and Conservative movements said they could accept the proposals, which extends to them a degree of legitimacy. An emergency delegation of Reform Rabbis from the US, headed by Ammiel Hirsch, head of the American Reform Movement's Zionist organization, was sched-

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uled to arrive last night for a 24hour visit to meet with both Neeman and Netanyahu to fend off legislation.

The religious parties said they are willing to extend the mandate of the Neeman committee until the end of January. But Rabbi Uri Regev, director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center and a member of the Neeman Committee, said his movement would agree to an extension only if it seems likely that the Orthodox will compro-

They are interested io pushing this off uotil the time of the Messiah, " he said, "but if there is no reason to believe there will be ecoperation, there is no reason for us to push it off." Extending the committee's deadline would mean that the religious parties would once again freeze the legislation. and the liberal movements would remporarily withdraw their court

נת ישראל

last minute the prime minister may well opt not to have the entire matter come up before the convention Such a postponement would be

to dump primaries

By SARAH HONIG

The betting in the Likud yesterday was that the party convention in a fortnight will not so much as take up the thorny primaries issue. Ministers who oppose any move

to dump the primaries proposed this as an honorable way out, after plentiful signals from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's direction indicated that he would in the end act to remove the issue from the agenda.

These predictions yesterday were reinforced after a meeting of the convention steering committee, whose chairman, Health Minister Yehoshua Matza is seen as acting on Netanyahu's behalf. Matza reiterated time and again that to his mind the sound and fury accompanying the primaries debate "may in the end prove to have been wasted. It's not likely this will ever be brought to a vote."

His broadest hint was that "at the

"a welcome development," so far as Communications Minister Limor Livnat - the single most vociferous opponent of any plan to do away with the primaries - is concerned. "There is no real reason for this issue to come up before the delegates now," Livnat was quoted as saying. "We are hardly on the eve of elections. A

postponement, or removal of the entire issue from the party agenda, would be just fine.

"If not, the matter should be passed on to our 220,000 members for a referendum. It would certainly be wrong to leave it up to the delegates who comprise the central committee, which is the forum considered for selecting the new Knesset list instead of the membership at large."

The consensus in many Likud quarters is that the ministers may well unite behind an idea to put off a decision. National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai are said to favor the notion. While all ministers, because they are incumbents in the media limelight, stand to lose from the abolition of the primaries, only Livnat had thus far forcefully spoken out against the idea. The other ministers, moreover, are seen as unlikely to unite in action against a move which they suspect might be favored by Netanyahu.

Only Livnat, Science Minister Michael Eitan, and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi joined Matza yesterday at the steering committee session. Livnat continued her warnings of the past week, and was quoted as predicting that "if the primaries are done away with, the Likud will slide back to the infighting which preceded the primaries system, and this will be our downfall -- both electorally and

Barak: Right regrets electing Netanyahu

By SARAH HONIG

Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak contended yesterday that Likud supporters deeply regret having voted for Binyamin Netanyahu for prime minister.

Barak was addressing a very sparsely-atteoded session of his party's ceotral committee, in which he urged the members to "conquer the street away from the

. Barak said he knows "how deeply Likud supporters rue voting for Netanyahu. They now admit they experienced a bad political accident and ended up putting in power a man who is so plainly unsuited for the job.

"They wanted a leader and ended tip with a technical hitch. It's bad enough that he bungles everything and is a severe national

embarrassment, but worst of all is the fact that he is a distinct danger to the nation."

The Labor chairman continued lambasting Netanyahu. "He is a shell without any con-

teot inside. He is all talk and oo actioo. People though they were electing a right-wing mind, only to discover that they put in office two left hands. Everything this man touches goes awry. No wonder observant Jews wish they could

change the country's mezuzot." Barak concluded that his party's members "must rise from their armchairs and take to the streets.

"We must conquer the street away from the Likud. Go out to protest rallies which this party will lead, beginning with the rally to commemorate the assassination of late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin." Barak exhorted Laborites.

PALESTINIAN PRESS REVIEW By Michal Sela

A democratic bi-national state, occasionally discussed in Israel, is also being discussed by some Palestinians.

It is far from being a philosophical luxuwrote Atta al-Qaimari in al-Quds. The idea, which is a platform of the Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberatioo of Palestine, has recently been questioned in an article by the party leader, Abdul-Rahim Malluh. It is a noble idea, but not a realistic one in the current circumstances, he wrote.

Al-Qaimari, affiliated with the DFLP, agreed that it was not realistic, because "it means that Israel has to give up all its achievements," and as the stronger party in the conflict, there is no chance this would

But given the state of the Oslo agreement, the option of a Palestinian state in the administered territories - considered a Palestinian national consensus - seems equally non-realistic, according to al-Qaimari.

Al-Qaimairi said that from the ideas being raised by Israel for the final-status negotiations, these will likely lead to another temporary arrangement. Therefore, it might be fruitful to consider an alternative that may solve the roots of the conflict.

A big question is how to bridge a people under occupation without a state and a people with a state based on a religious idea of a state for Jews only, he wrote. But is it better to be a small divided state dependent on external support... in which workers seek their daily labor at the neighbors' ...?" Al-Qaimari rejected the possibility that in one united state the Palestinians would be cultur-

ally assimilated. They could not annihilate our existence ...

during 30 years," he noted. Moreover, the Palestinians constitute 43% of the population between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean. "What could happeo to them if they were equal citizens in a democratic state that recognizes them as a partner-

nation?" Though most Jews reject this option, al-Qaimari suggested joining ranks with those Israelis who support it. But though one democratic state is the most just solution, al-Qaimari wrote that he is willing to postpone power.

it to a later stage, after the establishment of a Palestinian state in part of Palestine "as it was before the settlements and the fragmentary

Osio solutions distorted it." Hamas and the PA

Hamas's role in Palestinian national pobtics was again a focus of interest. Reviewing the short history of the Gaza-founded organization in al-Ayyam, Ashraf al-Ajrami shed light on the traditionally moderate attitude of the pan-Arab Moslem Brotherhood movemen from which Hamas sprang.

Hamas wishes to become an equal, if not an alternative, political power to the National Authority. Considering military activity a means, not an end, the movement is willing to negotiate with Israel, even through a third party. Nevertheless, it is difficult for Hamas and to give up the idea of an Islamic state over all Palestine. "The Hamas leadership can do it, but not its constituency," according have come out with contradicting declarations." In the short ruo, Hamas tacties will be maintain some contact with the National on the issue.

leader Khaled Mashaal was a warning, wrote ing members of Congress of the dangers of al-Ajrami. It may push the movement towards more moderation.

Corruption

The Al-Quds editorial welcomed Arafat's announcement that administrative reforms would end to the reported corruption in public institutions. "It is not uncommon to find some corruption in societies in similar conditions. The main point ... is how we handle it."

Legislative Council is not a fake, ... but has close. I would have to agree and say this is authority which is respected by the executive unprecedented." Intelligence sources said

Israel not expecting Russia to yield on Iran

kilometers.

By STEVE RODAN

Israeli officials said last night they have virtually no expectations that the current talks with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov will lead to a decision by Moscow to curtail aid to Iran's ballistic missile pro-

The officials said in meetings with Primakov he continues to insist that Russia is not providing military aid to Teheran. This, officials said, is despite the presentation of what Foreign Minister David Levy termed "hard evidence" of Russian technology transfer and scientific help to four franian missile

This issue is not going to be resolved between us and the Russians," a senior official said. "This is something that the Russians will decide only with the Americans." The to change quickly its rejection of the Jews officials said the Primakov talks are a prelude to the arrival early next month of US envoy Frank Wisner, appointed by President Bill Clinton to negotiate with Moscow over an to al-Airami. "That is why Hamas leaders end to Russian aid to Iran's ballistic missile program. Wisner will meet with his Russian counterpart, Yuri Koptev, director of the to meet its constituency's expectations and Russian Space Agency, in their third session

Israeli officials have been successful in However, the attempt to assassinate Hamas convincing US intelligence sources and leadthe Russian aid to Iran. US Rep. Curt Weldon, chairman of House National Security Military Research and Development subcommittee is preparing a bill that would seek to punish anybody aiding Iranian ballistic missile programs.

"The Russians haven't done anything like this [to the extent that it has aided Iran] outside of what used to be called the Communist bloc," said Joseph Cirincione, a leading US missile expert and senior associate at the wrote al-Quds. This step should be accompa- Henry L. Stimson Center in Washington now nied by a thorough follow-up of the parlia- attending a conference organized by the ment's ruliogs that have not yet been carried Galili Center for Strategy and National Security, "They haven't aided India that way The citizen should feel that the Elected and relations between it and Russia are very Russia's accelerated technological aid pro-

gram will give Iran the capability to independently produce medium-range ballistie missiles that can strike Israel, the Gulf and central Asia within 6-8 months. The sources said Russia and Iran are already testing components of the Shihab 3 and by early 1999 will have finished the development the mediumrange missile with a range of about 1,300

(Yaci Somekh/Israel Sun)

But by mid-1998 the Iranians will have sufficient technology and parts to continue with their missile program even if Russia is forced to halt its participation. "We think it will be another good few months that Iran will need Russia," a senior intelligence source says. We're talking 6-8 months." The sources said Iran is developing four separate missiles.

Shihab 3 has a range of 1,300 kilometers with a payload of 700 kilograms. Shihab 4 has a range of 2,000 kilometers with a payload of more than one ton. Shihab 3 is regarded as the completion of North Korea's Nodung missile while Shihab 4 is based on rechnology of the Russian SS-4.

Two other missile programs, which have not been named, aim to have ranges of 4,500 and 10,000 kilometers, the latter with the ability to strike the east coast of the US.

The picture is very clear to Israel and the US," the senior intelligence source said. "The argument is at what point will Iran be able to develop missiles independently without Russian help." For his part, Cirincione is doubtful that Iran can forego on Russian help so soon. "Even next year with Russian help, I don't think Iran can solve the problem," he said. "This is a very difficult project to do." The Primakov visit also comes in the wake of quiet Israeli efforts to convince Russia to end its aid to Teheran. A senior diplomatic source said Mossad chief Danny Yatom recently met with Russian intelligence officials in

Moscow to discuss Russian aid to Iran. But the source said Yatom and his aides came away doubtful that the meeting would lead to any Russian decision to stop aid to Teheran. The source said the Israelis suspect that the meeting was arranged as part of what he termed Moscow's policy of delaying any significant US action against Russian-Iranian cooperation.

Ministry of Health

Property and Services Department, Jerusalem

Price bids are invited for the following services: Tender No. 161/97 - Proposal for an Employee Clock-In/Clock Out System for Health Ministry Offices

3. a. To obtain the tender documents, and additional details, apply to the

Period of Contract The development period, plus 12 months guarantee period, with an option to extend for a further seven years.

inquirtes desk or the secretariat of the Property and Services
Department, 29 Rehov Rivka, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Health, Jerusalem
Tel. 02-568-1221/200, 02-568-1364, during regular working hours.
The tender documents will be provided, on submission of a receipt for NIS1,000, for money paid by means of a payment slip into Postal Bank account 0-03807-9, to the credit of The Property and Services

Department of the Ministry of Health. Clarifications and requests for further particulars should be addressed, during regular working hours, to Mr. Ilan Meir, Tel. 02-670-6855, or

Last date for submitting bids, which should be placed in the tenders box at the information desk, Ministry of Health, 29 Rehov Rivica. 2nd floor. Jerusalem, is December 11, 1997, at 1:00 p.m. Questions and reservations in respect of this tender should be submitted

In writing, not later than November 13, 1997. They should be addressed to 4 Rehov Shalom Yehuda, Ministry of Health, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-670-6855, or fax. 02-671-5570.

A bidder who submits no such questions of reservations will be regarded

as agreeing to the terms of the tender. a. Basic conditions applying to the submission of bids: (1) A valid certificate from an auditor, in accordance with the income Tax Ordinance, giving the bidder's financial turnover in 1996, should be

(2) Payment of NIS1,000 (nonreturnable) should have been made for the

(3) To be eligible to bid, suppliers must be legally registered bodies with proven experience of at least five years, in the provision of services of the type described in the tender documents, who employ 20 full-time employees in the relevant field, and have an annual turnover of at least NISS million, as confirmed by an auditor's certificate. A supplier may bid, if it is the Israel subsidiary of a company, and its parent company - comples with these conditions, provided the parent company acts as

guarantor for its subsidiary. (4) Certificates should be attached to the bid, confirming that the supplier is a registered trader for the purposes of VAT, and that he keeps account

(5) A bank guarantee must be attached, to the value of 10% of the total sum of the bid, linked to the index, with the addition of VAT, valid for up to 120

days from the last date for submission of the bid. (6) Bidders must participate in the bidders' meeting which will take place on November 24, 1997 at 9 a.m. in the first floor conference room of the Ministry of Health, at 4 Rehov Shalom Yehuda, Jerusalem.

(7) The main supplier must be an automated data processing company which will develop or adapt through its staff/and or subcontractors the main system and the application described in the tender documents in accordance with the conditions therein.

7. The Ministry is empowered to give preference to legal bodies with greater experience in the supply of the services required by this tender, and with better qualified personnel. 6. We do not undertake to accept the lowest bid or part of it, or any bid

submitted. We are entitled to divide up the order and to give preference to experienced bidders, as detailed in the tender conditions, and are entitled to cancel or enlarge or reduce the scope of the tender for budgetary end/or administrative and/or organizational reasons. Where applicable, compulsory regulations applying to tenders (preference for Israell products), 1995, in respect of business cooperation will pertain to the

company to whom the bid is awarded.

Antisemitism parley to address threats to Jews abroad Defamation League, the World Jewish can be effectively counteracted." tled: "Assessments of the Threats to Jewish

By ELLI WOHLGELERNTER

A three-day conference on antisemitism opens today in Tel Aviv with a topical discussion of the status of property confiscated

iled. "The Return of Confiscated Property and Jewish Assets and its Consequences," a topical issue this year in light of the investigation into assets of Holocaust survivors

The conference, which is not open to the general public, will also hear reports enti-

Communities in the Diaspora," "Iran as Producer of Extremist Propaganda," "The

NEWS

in brief

Israeli visa scam in Kiev

Interior Ministry officials yesterday revealed that non-Jews were obtaining visas to enter Israel as new immigrants by paying for false affidavits sworn to by Jews in court stating that they were their biological parents, which the non-Jews then used to obtain visas. A ministry spokesman said a family of immigrants recently arrived here with visas obtained in the Kiev consulate in this way. Interior Ministry officials are looking into the matter. Aryeh Dean Cohen

Ministry blamed for losses at tourism sites

The Education Ministry is causing millions of shekels in losses to tourism sites by failing to address a dispute which is keeping schools from sending pupils on outings, Ramat Negev Local
Council Chairman Shmuel Rifman charged yesterday.
Rifman said in a letter to Education Minister Zevulun Hammer,

that the cancellations is causing serious educational damage to the pupils. Most of the school trips have been halted due to a dispute between the Secondary School Teachers Association and the ministry over payment for teachers on the trips. Aryeh Dean Cohen

Murder suspect released on bail

Ze'ev Rosenstein, who police suspect murdered Ilan Aslan and Ya'acov Kahalon and contracted for the murder of Manny Aslan - which was foiled by police - was released on NIS 170,000 bail yesterday by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court and placed under

house arrest for 30 days.

Judge Rachel Greenberg said she was not convinced police have any new evidence against Rosenstein and that the investigation was going in circles. The judge, however, agreed to delay Rosenstein's release until today, to give the police a chance to

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz for president of Israel?

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Seeking to establish an alternative Jewish leadership that will appeal to both the Right and Left, the Jewish Leadership Movement declared at their latest gathering that the movement would promote Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz as a candidate for president next year.

Apparently, no one has approached Steinsaltz on the mat-

"One of the movement's founders. Mordechai Karpel, stressed that Steinsaltz's name was raised as an example of the role model the movement is seeking, but that at least another six candidates are being discussed. He told Arutz 7 that former Supreme Court deputy president Menahem Elon and Rabbi Yisrael Ariel were among the others were being touted as candidates.

He added that during the coming months the movement's leaders would approach the different candidates. He also invited the public to offer suggestions.

"We need a president that will represent our Jewish identity," he added. "We believe that the general public does not need a religious identity but a Jewish identity and we hope to base our consensus on that belief."

Steinsaltz's name was raised by a government minister, Karpel said, but he refused to say which one. The movement is a political one

with any political party, Karpel said. He added that future plans include lobbying MKs and government ministers, and he did not rule out the possibility of running in the next general elections and putting up a candidate for prime minister. That, obviously, will depend on

that is not affiliated or identified

the kind of support we will receive from government ministers," he said, noting that if the government adopts its agenda there would be no need to establish another political

The movement, established over .a year ago, organized its first rally on the eve of Pessah this year, Karpel said, adding that the rally Saturday night was attended by over 2,000 people, even though it had barely been advertised other than in the movement's newsletter. Over 50,000 receive the newsletter, which is distributed mainly in synagogues, Karpel said.

Karpel stressed that the plan to support a presidential candidate should not be perceived as a condemnation of President Ezer Weizman. "He represents the people of Israel, but we feel there is a demand for someone to represent the 'Jewishness' of the Israeli people," Karpel told Israel Radio.

While the movement had attracted the support of various religious sectors, Karpel stressed that secular people had also expressed an interest in the movement.

Prisons Service denies hiding release of Nitzanim terrorists

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The Prisons Service yesterday denied trying to hide the fact that five of the terrorists freed in the Mashaal-Mossad prisoner swap were members of the Abul Abbas squads that tried to attack Tel Aviv from the sea in 1990.

"We never tried to hide anything," said spokeswoman Orit Messer-Harel. "It was late and we released everything we had on them. There was no conspiracy and I never had any contact with the Prime Minister's Office. We don't know everything [the prisoners] did."

At the time, Messer-Harel's office issued a statement listing the nine prisoners being freed. According to the list, the five captured on the May 29, 1990 raid were imprisoned for belonging to an "unknown organization," carrying out military trainThey were all serving 30-year

The Prisons Service announcement did not mention the fact that they were members of the Abul Abbas terrorist squads who tried

Former police inspector general Ya acov Temer yesterday justified the Exchange deal with Jordan over the Mashaul Affair, in which five Palestinian

terringsts who had plained to carry out a murderous affact by Tel Aviv were fraded for Mossad operatives.

We were formulate and so were the terrorists that

ther hid not kill or wrighd anybody and therefore stayed in the status of not having blood on their hands, said fernett.

It is not the first time that Israel has released datanges; it exchange for soldiers who were sent into battle and themselves were taken prisoner.

ing, and possessing weapons. to launch a massive raid on Tel Aviv. In the event, the raiding parties got lost - with one group of five terrorists surrendering immediately upon landing near Kibbutz Ga'ash, north of Tel

Terner: They met our criteria

The others were part of a group of 11 which outran patrol vessels Nitzanim Beach.

In this respect members in the should not be seen as being any fur

Other governments in the past

prisoners in order to free our people it

taken. I don't think there was any offe

"If we determined that we wou

members of Hamas or those wanted hands - then these five met the Terner who today is in charge of Force Museum at Hanzening

comes a time when a difficult

and splashed ashore near

A helicopter gunship pinned them down until IDF forces overran them, killing four and captur-

the five released were from the boat that landed at Nitzanim or at Ga'ash The terrorists told their inter-

ing seven. It is not clear whether

rogators that their mission was to carry out an attack on Tel Aviv hotels and conduct a massacre.

The Prisons Service statement noted that none of the prisoners had killed anyone. The prisoners are to remain jailed in Jordan. Itim adds:

Meretz MK Ran Cohen yesterday wrote State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat asking her to investigate who was responsible for disseminating the lie about the prisoners to the public. Cohen wrote that since the orders to lie bad come from the Prime Minister's Office and defranding the public is the "foundation stone" of this government, it is incumbent upon her to conductan

Furor erupts over hiding rapist's identity

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

A public outcry arose yesterday, following a report in Ha aretz that Bnei Brak dentist Amos Buchnik claims to know the identity of a notorious rapist, but will only reveal it if an investigation of Rabbi Eliezer Abuhatzeira is dropped.

Former internal security minister Moshe Shahal and MK Yael Dayan called on the police to immediately haul Buchnik in for questioning about the rape and attempted murder of a young female soldier, which sent shock waves throughout the country 12 years ago. On August 16, 1985 the soldier

hitched a lift with a man near Ramat Hovay. The driver attacked her, tore off her clothes, and raped her. He then shot her in the head and threw her naked from the car, leaving her for dead. But she managed to crawl for some 20 hours in the desert until stie was found by three Beduin youths, who called for help. The rapist, dubbed "the rapist from the South," was never caught. The soldier remained in a coma for nearly two months, after which the only identifying particular she could recall about the attack was that the man drove a Subaru.

Ha'aretz's Yossi Bar-Moha reported yesterday that Buchnik if it stopped publishing exposes about Abuhatzeira in Beersheba and the police stopped investigating him. Ha'aretz recently reported alleged tax evasions by Abuhatzeira.

"It's been lying in my stomach for 12 years," Buchnik told Bar-Moha, saying he had not revealed the rapist's identity for "religious and humane reasons," and because Abuhatzeira told him this would amount to handing over a Jew to non-believers (din moser).

The head of investigations for the southern police district, Dep.-Crndr. Arye Lior, told Israel Radio the police could not pressure Buchnik, because he committed no offense.

Lior's comment aroused Shahal's anger. "I was filled with fury to hear how the police was handling the affair," Shahal said, adding Buchnik should be questioned and that his withholding evidence is a crime.

. According to sources in the southem police district, Buchnik told Lior last Tuesday that one of his patients had told him he had raped and shot the woman soldier. The southern district passed on Buchnik's information to national police headquarters, which took charge of the investigation.

The national police spokesman said yesterday the police would not bargain with Buchnik, who was not



Children's champion

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza presents the ministry's Chesed Award to Willie Trump for his support of programs that help developmentally disabled children.

Beduin leaders to PM: Fire Rafael Eitan for racist remarks

Beduin leaders are demanding that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu fire Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan. following publication of what they said were racist remarks Eitan made relating to the Beduin,

The remarks were contained in a letter to the prime minister that

Ha'aretz obtained last week. In the letter. Eitan warned against the Beduin taking control of state lands in the Negev, condemned illegal building by Beduin in the area, and complained of violence by Beduin against law enforcement and civilian officials.

Eitan also advised disbanding the

IDF desert reconnaissance unit, for fear that armed Beduin might not remain loyal to the state and would lead a violent Beduin uprising.

At a press conference yesterday in Beersheba, Eitan said "the document was not aimed against the Beduin, but was meant to warn the government of the problems facing the Beduin at the end of this century, and the need to find a basic solution over the next several years."

Publication of parts of the letter Friday caused a storm in Beduin communities in the South. At a separate press conference yesterday, MK Taleb a-Sanaa (Democratic Arab Party) expressed fear that the government might adapt Eitan's approach as its policy.

Instead of involving the Beduin the development of the Negev, a-Sanaa said, all governments have tried to concentrate them in seven towns. This plan failed, and 80% of the Beduin live in 172 other places,

including unrecognized towns. There are 70,000 Beduin in unrecognized towns and demolition orders pending against 13,000 homes. All of them have turned into criminals, since no government has given them a chance to live like lien:

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human beings," a-Sanaa said. Tourism Minister Moshe Katsay, who is responsible for relations with Arabs, rejected Eitan's remarks, saying "No one should cast doubt on their loyalty to the state; 109 fallen Beduin soldiers who gave their lives for the state testify to their sacrifice and loyalty."

Where to eat in Israel

TANDOORI Indian Restaurant - The only restaurant in Israel where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Live traditional Indian dancing daily. Kings What Lagoona Hotel, Tel/Fax. 07-633 879, 636 6674. Open noon-3:30 p.m.; 6 p.m.-midnight

HERZLIYA PITUAH

TANDOORI Indian Restaurant - Only restaurant where price SHAKES HANDS with QUALITY and quantity smiles. Buffet Lunch NIS 45 (children NIS 23). Open noon-3 p.m.; 7 p.m.-1 a.m. Mercezim Building, 32 Maskit St. Tel 09-954 6702, Tel/fax 954 6769

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ANGELO RISTORANTE ITALIANO -- Frommer's 1997 Guide says, "The most superb pasta in the country..." Also fresh fish & Roman specialties. Kosher Dairy Call owner ingelo Di Segni / Lori Rosenkranz for reservations. 9 Horizanos. Tel. 02-623 6095.

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KOHINOOR Kosher Indian Restaurant - Kashrut supervision by Rabbi Yosel Fink, Buffet lunch NIS 47 (children NIS 24) Open 12-4 p.m.; 6 p.m.-midnight. Holiday Inn Hotel, The Crowne Plaza Tel. 02-658 8867. Tel/Fax. 02-653 6667.

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"This was not our itinerary, it was theirs," she said on the NBC program Meet the Press, apparently referring to stops on the US East Coast and West Coast likely to draw the biggest protests. The visit started late yesterday in Hawaii,

ed US efforts to open China's political sys-

and includes talks in Washington with President Bill Clinton on Wednesday. Jiang and his entourage will also visit colonial Williamsburg, Virginia; Philadelphia; New York; Boston and Los

Because of planned protest rallies,

ly fuzzy time" during the first state visit by a WASHINGTON (Reuters) - US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright predicted yesterday that Chinese President Jiang Zemin Chinese leader since Beijing crushed the Tiananmen Square democracy movement would not enjoy a "totally fuzzy time" dur-ing his visit to the United States and defendeight years ago.

Alhright rejected a suggestion by Jiang at a pre-departure news conference in Beijing Saturday that the United States was being too pushy in trying to open China's political

"I don't believe you can ever be too pushy about democracy," she said.

Chinese officials from Jiang on down have urged US authorities to shield Jiang, 71, as much as possible from the protesters expected at each of his stops.

"I was invited by President Clinton," Jiang

told reporters on Saturday when asked how he would react. "So it will be up to the United States to handle these events." But Albright, alluding to the planned rallies, said Jiang and his entourage would "probably see

Alhright said Jiang would "not have a total- what America's really like ... a country where people can express their views. And if they're not prepared for it, they ought to be because, I think that Americans feel very strongly" about alleged Chinese humanrights violations, she said.

Albright to Jiang: Expect protests

Albright said the Clinton administration was eager to use Jiang's visit to improve hilateral ties strained since the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown.

The important part here for us is to engage with China but not endorse everything that they are doing," she said. "And we will never have a completely normal relationship with them until they have a better human rights policy."

Jiang's trip has sparked protest plans by a broad range of critics, including Chinese dissidents, human-rights activists, advocates of greater Tibetan autonomy, environmental

groups, labor unions and abortion foes. A deal that would set the stage for US

companies to sell billions of dollars of civilian nuclear power plants to China - the expected centerpiece of the US-Chinese summit - was still being worked out, Albright said.

At issue is what type of assurances China would give about phasing out its nuclear cooperation with Iran, which Washington accuses of planning a covert nuclear weapons program.

Albright said the US needed "clear and unequivocal" assurances that Beijing would no longer help Iran develop its nuclear

power program.

She held out hope that China might still release one or more political prisoners to improve the climate for the summit.

They are obviously resisting, in terms of releasing people. We have made that point very clear a number of times, that we think it's important," she said. "We will have

Mandela urges more action on Nigeria

By DAVID LJUNGGREN

ANDREWS, Scotland (Reuters) - South African President Nelson Mandela yesterday urged Commonwealth leaders to find more ways of pressuring Nigeria to release some of its most eminent political prisoners, officials said.

Commonwealth leaders on Saturday agreed to maintain Nigeria's suspension for another year and threatened to exnel the west African nation unless it fulfilled its long-standing promise to introduce democracy by October 1 next year.

But officials and diplomats said Mandela - who himself spent 27 years in jail for fighting apartheid was deeply worried by what he saw as Nigeria's total intransigence over the release of political prisoners.

"He has suggestions on how Nigeria could be dealt with. The leaders are now hearing for the first time his proposals on what to do with Nigeria," an official told reporters.

The leaders will consider ways in which the Commonwealth can bring the release of prisoners about," the official said, after leaders began an informal session of talks at the luxurious Old Course Hotel in the ancient university town of St. Andrews, 80 km. north of Edinburgh.

Islamists charge Algerian polls rigged

PARIS - The outlawed radical Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) accused the Algerian government yesterday of resorting to fraud and unprecedented ballot-rigging in last week's council elec-

"With the local elections on October 23, the ruling powers have ended an electoral cycle that was based on exclusion and marginalization and finished up in fraud and unmasked trickthe statement said.

Results released on Friday showed the National Democratic Rally (RND), President Liamine Zeroual's main supporters, won

more than 50 percent of the vote.

The former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) took about 20% and the Islamist-leaning Movement of Peaceful Society (MPS) around 10%, the government said.

Menem may lose congressional majority

BUENOS AIRES - President Carlos Menem's Peronist Party, credited with reversing decades of economic decline in Argentina, may lose its congressional majority as a result of mid-term elections held yesterday.

Official results were expected late last night. Polls indicate that a new center-left coalition, The Alliance, stands to benefit from an electorate no longer scared of change and eager for progress on social issues.

Van Gough's 'Sunflowers' painting may be take

LONDON - Vincent van Gogh's "Sunflowers," one of the world's most valuable paintings, may be a fake, the British Sunday Times newspaper reported, citing investigations hy art expert Geraldine Norman.

The painting was sold by the Chester Beatty family in 1987 to Japan's Yasuda Fire and Marine Insurance Company for \$40.3 million. The Japanese owners said in July that there was no possibility the famed painting was a fake.

According to the newspaper, Norman concluded that a sun-flower study attributed to the famous Dutch artist was "almost certainly" the work of Claude-Emile Schuffenecker, an emhittered Parisian art teacher who owned it when it surfaced at a Paris exhibition in 1901.

Iran executes 6 for adultery, prostitution

TEHRAN - Three men and three women bave been stoned to death in public in northern Iran after a court found them guilty of adultery and prostitution, the Farsi-language Salam newspaper reported yesterday. The women were reportedly stoned by local civilians in public in Khazar Abad, near the Caspian Sea.

Stoning executions are usually carried out once or twice a year in Iran, where under Islamic law, prostitution and adultery are punishable by death.

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French Right: Leave wartime past alone

Spanish sheep schlepp-

By TOM HENEGHAN

PARIS (Reuters) - Another prominent leader has joined a rising conservative chorus urging France to stop washing its dirty linen in public over the war crimes trial of accused Nazi collaborator Manrice Papon.

François Leotard, leader of the Union for French Democracy (UDF), charged that the soulsearching unleashed by the trial was turning into a morbid reexamination of the darkest chapters of recent French history.

"We've gone over the Second World War, we've gone over the Algerian War," the former defense minister complained in a speech to party members on Saturday. You'll see, in three months, there'll be some slightly morbid brooding about the Indochina War,

The Papon trial, in which a former official of the collaborationist Vichy regime is accused of sending 1,560 Jews to Nazi death camps, has opened up a Pandora's box of historical taboos that some French would prefer were kept under

Heated debates about wartime collaboration, the brutality of the Algerian War and General Charles de Gaulle's readiness to work with former Vichy officials have upset conservatives, who see them as an embarrassing affront to France's postwar record and image.

In the past two months, Roman Catholic hishops, the police and the medical profession have apologized for not helping Jews in France enough to escape the

"Enough! Enough!" wrote Philippe Seguin, head of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR) party last week, in an article which accused the Socialist-led government of using the debate to undernine the conservative camp.

Confronting the past had created a "climate of collective atonement and self-flagellation" that was turning into an outright attack on

Gaullism itself, he said. Maurice Druon, a World War II Resistance veteran and former culture minister, hurst out at the Papon trial, saying: "Who profits from this trial? Germany, and only Germanyl Germany will have its revenge tomorrow!"

Where to stay in Israel

A Shepherd leads 2,000 sheep through central Madrid yesterday. The action was part of a campaign to revive annual migration of livestock along Spain's ancient cattle paths, some of which cross the hearth of the capital. (Review)

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Desperately seeking a new Russia

Yevgeny Primakov is panning out as a bad version of Back to the Future - an unreconstructed ex-Polithuro member stonewalling on his nation's hip-deep involvement with a dangerous pariah regime. Back, too, is that old Soviet-style chutzpah: demanding a greater role in the peace process while illegally providing missile technology to Iran, the most aggressive force in an already famously unstable region.

Speaking after his meeting with Foreign Minister David Levy, Primakov dismissed as "rumors" reports which claim thousands of Russian technicians are involved in Iran's ballistic missile program. His insouciance in the face of hard evidence confirmed by both Israeli and US intelligence services will no doubt backfire in the United States Congress. where the House International Relations Committee has just unanimously approved a bill that could force the Clinton administration to invoke numerous sanctions against Russian companies involved in this nefarious technology transfer.

"It is clear that Russia has already provided Iran with critical know-how and technological support," said committee chairman Benjamin Gilman, who is moving for immediate action "to prevent Iran from achieving a significant advance in its missile program." Iran is reportedly about eight months away from the point of no returo, after which even a full cutoff of Russian assistance will not seriously impede its nuclear program.

The Iranian effort is aimed at producing missiles that would allow the Islamic republic for the first time to reach Israel with weapons of mass destruction. It should go without saying that, under such circumstances, Israel should not acquiesce to the standing Russian bid for greater involvement in the region. What point could there be to assigning a special Russian envoy to the region, a-la Europe's Miguel Moratinos, while Moscow's death trade continues? The Russians must understand that no amount of talking about peace can mask or compensate for their real-life actions, whose effect is the very opposite of such talk. Moreover, Russia cannot expect to be treated like a responsible, developed democracy, rising like a phoenix from the ashes of the Soviet empire, if it relapses into vintage, Soviet-era foreign policies. Indeed, as much as Russia rity.

The visit of Russian Foreign Minister would like to be viewed as the mirror image of its previous incarnation, and welcomed as a Great Power not only in size but also in international prestige, Moscow must understand that that mantle cannot be assumed; rather, it must be earned.

While Western Europe's record - particularly France's and Germany's - of appeasing Iran with trade and bank loans is scandalous in its own right, it sill pales beside the brazenness routinely exhibited by Russian companies and so-called institutions. The Europeans at least play the game of pretending that their dealing in Iranian oil exploration and sophisticated "civilian" technologies will not bolster Teheran's threat to the region. But even the Europeans would not think of directly masterminding Iran's long-range missile program, as the Russians are at this very moment.

This is not a close call. This is the case much of the non-proliferation regime was constructed to prevent. Though it is, of course, necessary for Israel to block Primakov - a veteran Arahist of the old school and now the architect of Russia's Iran policy - with the evidence that he bas been caught in the act, it is the US and Europe that have the financial leverage to take effective action. Clinton administration officials testified against the bill that passed the House committee, but pointedly abstained from threatening a presidential veto. It is unfortunate that the White House may bave to be forced by Congress to impose sanctions, since its resistance in such a cut-and-dried case undermines the entire non-proliferation regime. In fact, if the threat of sanctions had not already become so attenuated through lack of use, the Russians prohably would have acted to shut down the technology flow to Iran long ago. Whatever tens of millions of dollars the Iranian contracts are worth. US assistance and space cooperation with Russia - both present and future - is worth billions.

Today's mantra, that sanctions don't work, has become a self-fulfilling prophesy; indeed, such measures are so rarely and selectively imposed that they have lost their deterrent value. The Russia-Iran case, with ample Western economic leverage and legal backing at band, is a golden opportunity to simultaneously address a setious threat to Western interests, while breathing credibility into a withered tool for peacefully safeguarding Western secu-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RIGHT TO STATEHOOD

Sir, - For almost all Israeli Palestinian state, will not risk its politicians the need to fight terror is axiomatic. Whereas, in fact, it is completely pointless. Denying the natural rights of self-determination to people above a certain degree of civilization, will inevitably cause them to fight for these rights. Calling these fighters terrorists and killing one of their leaders, will change nothing. New ones will always come forward.

What then would perhaps do the trick? How about trying to face the fact that others have the same right to statehood and security, as we have. Can it not be assumed that an independent, fully sovereign

achievement and existence in another war with us. And also that other Arah states would not encourage and support such and adventure, which would result in turmoil and defer the ongoing development of their economies. We already have seen that most of them are willing to accept the

That is the only way to end terrorism, and the sooner it is tried, the better, before Israel turns into

disproportionately until we effec-

tively change the system to one of

direct election of our representa-

Furthermore, unless we all make

an effort to bring about a separa-

tion of religion and state we will

not only continue to regress hut

also lose any hope of ever being a

It is no wonder that Jews in the

Diaspora and the world in general

find it harder to identify with us.

WALTER AUFHAUSER

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PARADOXICAL

Sir, - Moshe Arens's call for repealing the direct election of the Prime Minister Law in "No checks, no balances" (October 15) is rimely, but to infer that we would automatically return to sound government is paradoxical.

The penchant of opinion formers is to conveniently forget the travesty of previous years of political extortion which created the public's lack of confidence in a system which provides no accountability whatsoever to the elec-

Small parties (the Israeli malaise) will always wield power Sir, - Pinhas Inbari and Ziv

BEGIN TO LISTEN

Hellman write in "Jordan is the key" (October 17): "As strange as it may sound, Hamas rhetoric actually dropped its former antisemitic tone. ... Statements by [Sheikh Ahmed] Yassin revealed an indirect recognition that was previously absent. Yassin no longer describes jihad as a holy existence of Israel. commandment to eliminate the infidels".

The very next day, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin declared, in an interview with a Swedish newspaper, as reported on Israel Radio, that he would never tolerate the presence of a Jewish state, even were it confined to the limits of the city of Tel Aviv. and that the Jewish entity in this land must he totally eliminated.

Likewise, the Palesunian Covenant also rejects the existence of Israel.

When will our learned political analysts simply begin to listen to what the Arabs are actually and repeatedly saying, instead of these expens on peace implementation indulging in imaginary scenarios of Arab moderation, which have no basis in reality and fact?

BEN SHUA

Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On October 27, 1937. The Palestine Post reported that Mordechai Slotnitzky from Kihhutz Ramat Rahel was killed and an Arab constable wounded in a 20-minute fierce engagement between a police guard and a raiding party of 15 Arabs who ambushed a six-truck convoy carrying 21 Jewish laborers returning to Jerusalem from work in the Palestine Potash Company concession at the Dead Sea.

Constable Jacob Hoffman was wounded when shot at in Jerusalem's Old City.

Asher Herman, 16, was badly wounded in an Arah attack on school at Yagur settlement near Haifa. A bomh was thrown in the Sephardi quarter at Safed.

50 years ago: On October 27, 1947. The Palestine Post reported that Ahraham Salzman (25), a Jewish Settlement Policeman, was murdered near Nitzanim.

For the second consecutive day the Hagana clashed with the Irgun Zvai Leumi in Tel Aviv, Rehovot, Ramat Gan and Givatayim. A number of persons

were injured.

25 years ago: On October 27, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that an Egyptian security officer was severely injured when a letter bomb exploded at Cairo airport.

Most of the "Nicopboria" land, south of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem was incorporated into a national park being developed around the Old City following the acquisition (on a 125-year lease) from the Greek Orthodox

PM for all?

YOSEF GOELL

contenders for ¶he top national leadership democracies are expected to attack each other in the heat of the election campaign, but the winner is expected to be the leader of the entire people, including those who voted for his oppunent. Psychologically, such a switch in tone, expression and behavior a tall order, especially when one demands it from the types who make it to the top in politics. Surprisingly, most national lead-

OPINION

Bibi is basically an anti-democrat

ers in mature democracies usually do succeed in carrying out that metamorphosis, some with more and others with less grace and panache. If they did not, it is highly doubtful whether any democracy could long survive. The poisoned atmosphere of a typical election campaign will, of course, return in the next campaign; but in the interim the incumbents are expected to show what they can do in leading their country as a basis for their future appeal for reelection.

One of the very serious problems to emerge during Prime Minister Netanyahu's year and a third in office is that he clearly has no intention of performing that part of the prime minister's role which calls on him to serve as a national unifier. Worse, it may well be that even were he to come to the conclusion that it pays for him to behave as such, he wouldn't have the vaguest idea of how to pull it off.

All the indications are that despite his great admiration for the US and things American, Bihi is basically an anti-democrat. He

ing the past 16 months by his disdainful and even thuggish attitude to his cahinet colleagues, his Likud party, the Knesset, the "hostile" media, and to at least half of the population whom he has now identified as "leftists."

His recent highly publicized shouting into the ears of the deaf dean uf kabbalists Rabbi Kadouri that "the Left" has jettisoned its last vestiges of Jewishness and is determined to cede responsibility for Israel's security to the Arabs, is only the latest case in point.

Are there some individuals on the extreme Left of whom this may be true? Clearly the answer is yes. But seeking to tar the entire half of the nation which voted against him with that accusation is nothing less than criminal when it comes from the mouth of a ptime minister.

The "Left." in the form of Labor and Mereiz, were not entirely blameless of similar behavior. In the aftermath of prime minister Rahin's assassination two years ago many politicians in those two parties mounted a campaign to tar Netanyahu personally and the Likud collectively, and even moreso the entire National Religious camp, with responsibility for that murder.

Although Rahin's widow. Leah. and some others still continue with that slander. Labor leaders such as Peres and Barak were wise enough to realize where such accusations could lead and stopped well before the brink.

Netanyahu has already proven his total inability to translate the popular will to continue with the Oslo process with the Palestinians (with substantial modifications) into political terms. But he has also shown that he is unfit to serve as the leader of a democratic nation. His political intentions are ohvious. He believes that his has demonstrated that amply dur- political future depends entirely **Dry Bones**



on cementing a political alliance with the Ashkenazi and Sephardi haredi parties, even at the expense of his own Likud.

If the price for such an alliance in an Israel which is going through a period of an intense secular-haredi 'cultural war" is to besmirch the majority of the nation in the ears of a senile representative of the most petrified form of Judaism, so be it. Emphasizing the need for national unity and the prime minister's role

in maintaining it is not simply a matter of rarified political esthetics. The divisions, not to say animosities, which inform a deeply polarized nation cannot but be reflected in its army and critically important institutions like the Mossad and the General Security Services. There are signs that this is already happening. I would argue that not only has Netanyahu been a failure as prime minister hut that he constitutes a great danger to Israel.

Responsibility for defusing that danger lies with the parties and leaders of the ruling right wing coalition, and especially with the Likud, who were elected by a clear majority of the electorate in May 1996. What is badly needed are courageous and creative political leaders in that camp who can pull off the intricate but not impossible task of dumping the Netanyahu albatross while continuing the basic policy lines on which their camp was elected.

The writer comments on current

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Iraq is still a major threat

LAURIE MYLROIE

66 Tou're right," said Rolf Ekeus, the lanky grayhaired Swedish chairman of the UN Special Commission, responsible for eliminating Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. But even as Ekeus was leaving his post after six years, Saddam Hussein was still holding on to dangerous, proscribed, unconventional capabilities. I had long long suspected that and doubted Saddam would turn them over. Just as sanctions would

logical, chemical, and, perhaps, some day, nuclear. All this, however, only became known after the August, 1995 defection of Saddam's late son-inlaw, Hussein Kamil, who bad supervised the development of Iraq's unconventional weapons. Then, in the fall of 1995, it was learned that Iraq's most lethal capabilities had survived the war and

not have forced Saddam out of

Kuwait, they would not cause him

to give up those weapons - hio-

trac had managed to conceal that from UNSCOM for over years. Iraq, it was learned, had produced the highly lethal chemical agent, VX. One hundredth of a gram is fatal. Iraq acknowledged producing four tons of VX, but claimed to have destroyed it uni-laterally, a claim UNSCOM does not credit. Iraq also retains the ability to produce more VX. It had two parallel production facilities. One was used to produce the

chemical agent. But a duplicate program was huilt around the pesticides. manufacture of Although the equipment was never used for VX production, the technology is the same and is completely transferable.

Baghdad also retains its entire stockpile of hiological agents.

Indeed, Iraq has made the greatest effort to conceal its biological program and UNSCOM knows the least about it. UNSCOM continues to make alarming discoveries. Most recently, it learned Iraq had carried out large-scale production of a lethal fast-acting toxin, suitable for use on the hattlefield. The stockpile remains somewhere in Iraq.

There is also a potential nuclear problem. After Kamil's defection, it was learned that Baghdad was much further along in its nuclear program than had been thought. Possibly, all trag lacks for a bomb is the fissile material.

IN short, there is an enormous problem. Generally, important people bring such problems to public attention. One important person has - the outgoing UNSCOM chairman. But he is, at the end of the day, a technocrat. If it is not picked up by political authorities, it can fall on deaf ears. And that is what has happened. This was the

news no one wanted to hear - not George Bush, who ended the war prematurely, and not Bill Clinton. who is unprepared to deal with the consequence.

As all this became known, the Clinton administration merely reaffirmed the old policy - sanctions would stay on Iraq. Otherwise, it did little to take the materiel from Saddam. In June, 1996, for example, an UNSCOM team had Iraqi ds within sight. But UNSCOM received no meaningful support form Washington and the Iraqis spirited the missiles away.

Some Israelis understand the problem. In December, 1995, then-foreign minister, Ebud Barak, met US secretary of defense. William Perry. Barak made what official US notes of the meeting described as an "emo-tional, personal appeal." Barak went on to publicly criticize the "oil for food" resolution, which Baghdad had begun to discuss with UN authorities. If it were implemented, a substantial part of the money lraq was spending on humanitarian goods would go for

proscribed purposes.
Instead of addressing the problem, the administration told Barak not to criticize the resolution, saying it would be bad for the peace process. The Likud government has also expressed its concerns about Iraq, but privately, not publicly. Thus, there is little public aware-

ness of the problem, even as Baghdad claims, with increasing stridency, that it has complied with the UN resolutions and it is time to lift sanctions, The Security Council recently took its toughest stance against Iraq in several years. On June 21, it unanimously passed a resolution demanding Iraq cooperate with UNSCOM and threatening additional measures, if four months hence, Iraq was still not cooperating. Baghdad rejected the resolution, claiming, "Iraq has implemented all relevant resolutions," and demanding that the Security Council "totally lift the blockade imposed on Iraq." It is hard to avoid the conclusion that Saddam will not relinquish that material unless much more is done. Even so, international support for sanctions is waning. How much longer can they

be expected the last? They may be lifted, even as Iraq retains large quantities of proscribed agents and the capability to produce more. Conversely, if sanctions remain, Saddam might actually think to use what he will not turn over to UNSCOM. In either case, there is a serious problem. Few want to hear that. But to delay coming to grips with it is to invite the worst.

The writer is an expert on Middle Eastern affairs and is the publisher

The wrong tax reform

That does a second-term president who no longer needs to pander and whose approval rating is soaring do when the Republican opposition, riding a wave of anti-IRS sentiment, proposes a radical IRS restructuring he thinks is wrong and therefore opposes?

If be is Bill Clinton, he caves.

After a month of opposition and with a finger to the wind, President Clinton abruptly changed course last week and joined the mob endorsing the Republican reform. True, Clinton wasn't alone. House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt defected just moments before Clinton did. But Gephardt has an excuse. He wants to be president. Clinton already is. And can't be again.

The administration would, of course, deny crass political motives. It points to changes it got from House Ways and Means Comminee Chairman Bill Archer (R-Tex.), such as having the IRS commissioner still be appointed by the president, rather than by a new

11-member IRS oversight board. But for weeks the administration had opposed the vety idea of a civilian-dominated oversight board. It bas now capitulated, endorsing a board with very formidable powers, including the right to approve the IRS's strategic plans and recom-mend an IRS budget to Congress. **CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER**

This after the director of the National Economic Council, Gene Sperling, had called it "extremely misguided . . . a recipe for conflicts of interest, less accountability and less trust." The other important reform, shifting the hurden of proof from the taxpayer to the IRS in tax court, was denounced with vehemence. Treasury Department spokesman Howard Schloss had claimed its effect would be "excessive burdens on honest taxpayers" and "more burdensome audits and investigations." But that was days - and polls - ago, a lifetime in this administration.

So much for standing on princiole. What about the merits of the case? Is it a good reform? Now that Clinton and Gephardt have made it unanimous hy signing on with the Republicans, Krauthammer's First Law of Politics kicks in: When all of Washington agrees on something, it is undoubtedly wrong.

AN IRS review by Scn. Boh Kerrey (D-Neb.) and Rep. Roh Portman (R-Ohio) submitted to Congress just last June concluded that the IRS did not suffer from widespread or systematic ahuses: The commission found very few examples of IRS personnel abusing power." The system is not broken. Sure, after a casting call. Congress came up with anecdotal cases of ahuse. But that tells us nothing. There is not an agency in government or in husiness or anywhere that does not experience individual abuses.

The problem is not tax collectors out of control. It is tax writers out of control. The IRS does not write the rules it must enforce. Congress and the president do.

And the rules are now an insane 9.451 pages long. The tax code is so extraordinarily complicated that no taxpayer can ever be sure that he has fully complied with the law. So what does the 105th Congress do? Worsen the tax code. The balanced budget bill so trumpeted by Republicans and Democrats is a

scandal of loopholes, preferences,

coercion and complexity. The capital gains form alone has become so complicated - it has gone from 19 lines to 54, from two rates to four - that the IRS, which received the final details of this fiasco only recently, will not finish programming its computers to handle the new schedules elec-

tronically until February. The IRS reform undoes none of this. No one knows whether a civilian review board will actually improve the operation of the

agency. And you don't bave to be a genius to predict that shifting the hurden of proof to the IRS will produce a drop in tax receipts and encourage a whole new round of tax avoidance. This is a tax cut for envelope-pushers and cheaters.

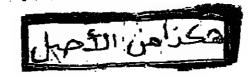
This is not exactly the kind of income redistribution that the "fairness" Democrats crow about. And it is not the kind of tax-cut Republicans should be pushing.

To his credit, Chairman Archer also is pushing for radical reform of the tax code, something Clinton and the Democrats are resisting. Archer's solution is to root out entirely the income tax - itself a standing invitation to government to probe practically every transaction of your life - and replace it with a consumption tax.

If that is too radical for you, there is the flat tax. And if that is too radical still, we should at least go back to the 1986 tax reform that, in a rare and exemplary act of rationality, simplified the tax code by eliminating dozens of loopholes and creating just two tax rates.

Congress and presidents have ever since conspired to systematically trash that reform, amending it more than 4,000 (!) times. Having created an appalling mess, they now blame it on the tax collectors.

(Washington Post Writers Group)



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Unhappy Returns

Pity the I.R.S., the Tax Code's Whipping Boy

By RICHARD W. STEVENSON

O many members of Congress, as to working stiffs and millionaires alike who dread contact with tax collectors, the Internal Reveoue Service too often lives up to its caricature as an unresponsive, intrusive and vindictive bureaucracy.

"The power to tax is the power to destroy," Representative Bill Archer, the Texas Republican, said last week as he unveiled legislation intended to give taxpayers a fairer shake when they confroot the I.R.S. and to improve the management of the tax-collection agency.

Mr. Archer, whose avowed goal is to "get the I.R.S. completely and totally out of the life of every American," may see the ageocy as an even more tempting punching bag than other legislators, some of whom had the temerity to say that the I.R.S. actually does a pretty good job. But his bill sailed through the Ways and Means Committee with little opposition on its way to the House floor, where it is likely to pass with an overwhelming bipartisan majority.

After some hesitation, Democratic leaders on Capitol Hill decided to support the bill. So did President

Everybody hates the I.R.S. Almost as much as the alternative.

Clinton, who bad fought it - primarily because it would dilute executive branch authority over the I.R.S. - but reversed course as the political wind behind the legislation turned into a gale. His surrender all but insured that the measure would become law after the Senate takes up similar legislation, probably early next year.

Yet for all the crowing on both sides of the aisle about strengthening taxpayers' rights, there was also grudging acknowledgment that fixing the LRS is the easy part, and that the real problem lies in the byzantine nature of the tax code itself. Over the years, Congress has found it easy to increase the system's complexity; the tax cut enacted last summer, for example, tripled the oumber of tax rates on capital gains and established a bewildering array of retirement and college-savings incentives. But Congress has rarely found the will to untangle the knots it creates.

Most of the code's complexity, of course, is there

because Congress tried to make the system fairer, or to use it to encourage some social or economic good, or to make it more responsive to the needs of a constitueocy, whether a narrow special interest or a broad class of taxpayers. And once a tax break enters the code, its beneficiaries are loath to give it up; just listen to the hue and cry whenever eliminating the morigage-interest deduction comes up.

But the more complicated the tax code, the more ways there are to interpret what is acceptable and what is a scam. That reality provides a good living for legions of accountants and tax lawyers, but it also imposes on the I.R.S. a role as enforcement agency as well as tax collector. A system that is based on voluntary compliance, and which gives taxpayers wide leeway to calculate their own tax liabilities, could hardly function without some kind of cop on the beat.

The Blood Trail

However menacing the I.R.S. might be, there are plenty of taxpayers who find advantage in a tax code of an organic nature, one that changes to fit changing economic and social circumstances. And Congress's enthusiasm for assailing the easy target presented by the I.R.S. is itself a recognition that changing the agency is much easier politically, and to defenders of the progressive tax system perhaps more effective as well, than adopting a tax code that wouldn't require such an intrusive enforcement agency.

"For all our whacking on the I.R.S., the blood trail comes back to us," said Senator Bob Kerrey, the Nebraska Democrat, who was co-chairman of a bipartisan Congressional commission on the tax agency.

The problem is hardly a new one. In his new book, "The Decline (and Fall?) of the Income Tax," Michael J. Graetz, a professor at Yale Law School, tells of how Alexander Hamilton, the country's first Treasury Secretary, persuaded Congress in 1791 to place a tax on liquor, not to raise revenue but to encourage "social discipline."

"Pollticlans have been tinkering with the tax system ever since," Mr. Graetz wrote.

However well intentioned, such tinkering frequently creates unforeseen complications that are then addressed with, yes, more tinkering. The introduction of joint filing for married couples in 1948, for example, effectively created a bias against single filers, which was addressed in 1969 through the introduction of what became known as the "marriage penalty," which is now biting the growing oumbers of two-income couples particularly hard - and which Republicans are oow proposing

to repeal or to scale back. The last attempt to streamline the tax system came

Continued on Page 4



Tentative Global Profile

China Exports Its Own Uncertainty

By SETH FAISON

HINA exports so much to the United States that at times it can be hard to find a pair of sboes, a toy or an electrical appliance in an American department store that does not say "Made in China."

Yet China-made, most of the time, does not really mean Chinese. The goods that China ships out by the boatload do not look or feel Chinese. Unlike Italian fashion, French wine or American movies, most Chinese exports have nothing to do with Chinese culture. They are simply low-cost things that, as far as a buyer is concerned, could as easily have come from Madagas-

As its exports suggest, China cuts a strangely tentative global profile for what is arguably the world's oldest civilization and unarguably its biggest emerging power. This is reflected in its leader, President Jiang Zemin, who arrives in the United States today for a weeklong visit, and in much more about China.

Take culture. China's historical contributions to the world are there all right, beginning with ancient innovations like paper and

China's leader comes here symbolizing its inferiority complex rather than dynamism.

gunpowder. But the highly visible, truly Chinese cultural exports of today are essentially limited to drawing-room chinoiserie and takeout cuisine.

The reason is evident. China is poor and old. Its culture is conservative, glorifying virtues like patience, social grace and education. These are hard sells in an age more interested in youth and sex appeal.

As he tours the United States this week, Mr. Jiang no doubt would like to appear to be the head of a dynamic nation poised to lead the world in the oext century.

But China's role in the world, even as it grows economically, seems likely to be circumscribed by its the country's uncertainty

about itself. Outsiders often find China impenetrable, blaming its complex language or the Communist legacy that keeps the nation secretive and closed to outsiders. But another explanation lies in the musty nature of Chinese culture. Among the elements that compose China's complicated psyche today, two



An inward-looking culture: ancient, life-size terra-cotta soldiers in Xian.

stand out: its insular, self-satisfied attitude, rooted in the ancient Chinese belief that the oation lay at the center of the world; and the deep sense of inferiority that came with the modern realization that China was actually far behind most of the developed world.

Those two conflicting attitudes coexist in the minds of most Chinese, forming a cultural burden that is hard for Americans to

In the ancient world, Chinese emperors were accustomed to thinking that China was at the center of the universe, surrounded by tributary states like Japan, Korea and Vietnam. The illusion melted when Western gunboats turned up in China 150 years ago.

China's history over the past century and a half is a story of trying to come to terms with the West. Major political transitions keep mixing Western ideas with Chinese reality: The old imperial system fell to a republican government run by warlords; that fell to a socialist system run by the Communist Party; that is now falling to a capitalist system run by the Communist

Self-Absorbed

After this long and involved progression, Chinese society favors the practical, shuns the romantic and is still far more interested in itself than in anyone else.

"Chinese seldom look at other cultures on their own terms, but always compare them to China," said Zha Jianying, author of a book oo popular culture in China. "Why should the world care so much to learn from a culture like that? You can admire or borrow certain achievements, but still not feel attracted by its attitude, which is so selfcentered."

Tibetan culture seems to have drawn more passionate adherents in the West in recent years than Chinese culture has -

consider Tibet's current vogue in Hollywood. This fascination may be partly attributable to Tibet's compelling political profile as an occupied land under Chinese domination, but it probably also stems from admiration for its intense, mystical religious devotion, a character lacking in Chinese culture.

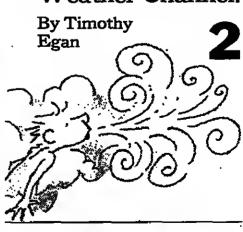
Confucianism is still at the root of Chinese culture. And its teachings of obedience, social ritual and respect for elders are clashing with more modern notions of flexibility and directness, leaving many Chinese conflicted and uncertain.

Mr. Jiang personifies this uncertainty. Although 1997 has been the crowning year of his career - he emerged as China's undisputed leader after the death of Deng Xiaoping last February, and presided over a seamless recovery of Hong Kong - he is still

Continued on Page 3

Asian Crash As markets rose, cash from around the world flowed to the Asian Tiger. But the tiger proved to be made out of paper. By David E. Sanger

Blaming El Niño Of salmon and sea lions, and the Weather Channel.



South African Dilemma Another country's struggle with affirmative action.

By Suzanne



The Nation

WEEKLY REVIEW

Weather at 11, and More or Less All Winter



By TIMOTHY EGAN

RICH man this winter may be the one wbo purchased futures in sand, roofing material and Midwestern grain last summer. Not that there are looming shortages. But enough people think El Niño, the perfectly normal but obsessively observed warming of the Pacific Ocean, will cause such an epic unsettling of winter weather this year that there is already a run on all sorts of things usually taken for

Try hiring a roofing contractor in California; it's a three-month wait in some places. Snow is supposed to be scarce in the places where It Is most wanted: ski resorts in the northern Rockies and Nagano, Japan, site of the 1998 Winter Olympics. At the same time, beating oil prices are flat, in large part due to forecasts of a comparatively balmy winter in the northern half of the

But what happens if California is dry, the Northeast is cold, and the jet stream carpet-bombs the Rockles in snow - if there is, in other words, a normal winter? A whole army of climate predictors, web site producers and politicians may have to find oew indoor pursuits.

El Niño is real, oo question about It. Temperatures in the eastern Pacific in August and September were higher than any recorded in 50 years. And that mass of warm surface water, radiating oo infrared weather maps like the coals of a fake fire, Is oow about the size of Canada, Yikes!

Been There

But even if It looks a bit outsize this year, the phenomenon — basically, a change in the normal eastwest flow of trade winds across an ocean that covers nearly a third of the earth's surface - has been around perhaps since the time that humans stopped dragging their knuckles across the ground. Since 1950, there have been 13 appearances of The Kid.

What has changed this time around are technology

and the forecasting business, which go together. For the first time, scientists from all sorts of Government agencies and their less-well-trained but better-dressed colleagues at TV weather departments are making rather precise predictions about what this El Niño is supposed to do. And belped by such Niño-related phenomena as warm-water fisb like marlins being caught off the normally frigid Northwest coast and wildflowers husting out in the Baja desert, it's a ratings winner.

Here's what they predict for the United States this winter: high winds, pounding surf and sheets of rain for much of California - hence the run on sandbags, tarps

El Niño is coming! It'll drown California! It'll ruin the Olympics! It'll kill seals! It's already making everybody weird!

- bad for salmon, good for people whose melancholia is weather-influenced. Parts of the Rockies will be snowstarved, ditto the Great Plains, and not as cold. The South is a tossup, except Florida and the Gulf Coast, which are supposed to be wetter than usual. The Atlantic Coast and the Northeast will be warmer, with less snow.

All of this is speculation, of course. But it is bolder and more pronounced than ever before, lending itself to beadlines and news accounts that sound like 1950's sci-fi films. "Word's out that El Niño is coming," The San Francisco Examiner announced in a fairly typical article last week. "Not just any El Niño, but the biggest, baddest El Niño to mosey up the coast in 150 years." An article in The San Francisco Chronicle carried this large-type comment: "The cry has gone out: El Niño is coming, El Niño is coming.

It is not just journalists and weather forecasters generating the storm of superlatives. Also joining the choir are politicians, psychiatrists and scientists whose usual idea of a daring exchange is to share cartoon lines from the "The Far Side."

Rain in Southern California

At an El Niño "summit" this month in Santa Monica, Calif., the Federal Government's top oceanographer issued some dire warnings. Ants Leetmaa, director of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administra-tion, predicted that rainfall in Southern California would be 200 percent above normal, which would make it one of the wettest winters on record. Already, he sald, temperatures in the ocean were "unprecedented in amplitude."

This prompted Vice President Al Gore, who attended the summit, to declare, "We must act before the rains begin," and then to speculate that perhaps global warm-ing was to blame. El Niño has been a boost for both sides in the debate over what to do about emissions of earthwarming gases. One side sees the higher-than-usual warming of the ocean as evidence of human meddling in the fragile earth, the other sees Nature asserting itself at the top of the earthly order with a vengeance.

Mr. Leetmaa based his forecast on the mind-bogfrom sensor buoys bobbing all over the Pacific to satellite cameras sending back a flow of images that look pretty cool on the World Wide Web.

But for all that, he added, his forecast could be wrong. Even if the predictions are accurate, El Niño may not be all that bad. For one thing, winds from the heavilyvexed ocean have cleaned Southern California's air, bringing one of the best years to breathe in Los Angeles in

The Northwest surely will mourn the continued loss of its Pacific salmon, but El Niño is also supposed to be hard on sea lions, the scourge of salmon. Seattle has been trying for oearly I0 years just to get rid of a half-dozen or so sea lions who do nothing but lounge around with their

mouths open at the entrance to a once-bountiful salmon

Western lands starved by drought, particularly in New Mexico and Arizona, may get full reservoirs and fresh life in parched washes. Some forecasters say Florida will get fewer burricanes in 1998, the year of El Niño Grande. Also, few people are expected to complain about lower heating bills in New England.

Overall, the United States is expected to fare better than the rest of the world. Already, droughts in Australia, Brazil and South Africa, and fires in Indonesia are

For that matter, El Niño can be and probably will be blamed, or credited, for almost anything, from the fate of Mr. Gore's political future to the overbearing funk of a fifth-grader. People who are making money, or careers, off El Niño are benefiting from expectations, not from real changes. Analysts have been running up the stocks of certain home repair chains, anticipating record years for hardware warehouses. The insurance industry is doing booming business in parts of the West. Commodities traders, banking on forecasts of dry days for the farm belt, are taking El Niño talk to the bank. Some farmers have sold their cattle and altered their planting sched-

If all the Sturm and Drang does come about, it will be useful to remember that it has happened before, and long before El Niño was given its name - a reference to the tropical Pacific around Christmas — in 1895. People went about their lives, working and complaining about the weather as usual, wondering why there is no white Christmas some years, without any idea about the temperature changes in the middle of the Pacific.

And there is another comforting thought, courtesy of The Old Farmer's Almanac. For 205 years, the almanac has been forecasting the weather, based on "a secret formula devised by the founder of the almanac in 1792," as the book explains. This year, the outlook for winter is nothing very dramatic: snowfall above normal in New England, rainfall below normal in the southeast, a wet Pacific Northwest and California scheduled to get "nearnormal precipitation."

Wasted Energy

Fuel Efficiency Falls, Just as More Is Needed

By JOHN H. CUSHMAN Jr.

WASHINGTON HEN people are rich and fuel is cheap, when the weather is cold and the economy is hot, the United States can hardly resist indulging its appetite for energy.

That was the situation in 1996, when Americans tanked up even more extravagantly than usual. Total energy use grew 3.2 percent, according to the Energy Department, outpacing the nation's economic growth rate of 2.4 percent.

Last year was the first tick upward in five years, a deviation from a long downward trend in energy consumed per dollar of economic production. But while the Energy Department expects improvement in energy efficiency to resume and to prevail for 15 more years or so, the rate of improvement seems to be flattening - just as nations concerned about global climate changes are pressuring the United States to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, the greenhouse gas produced by burning fossil fuels.

Last week President Clinton proposed a new plan for reducing emissions by offering American businesses incentives to cut them, siding with technological optimists who say Yankee ingenuity can meet the challenge — perhaps with a subsidy.

But others say that to keep the growing American economy from pumping out more carbon dioxide, different incentives are needed. Economic behaviorists say a painful one may be required: higher energy prices. Economic regulators want tighter standards for manufacturers to produce

more efficient cars and appliances. The optimists say there are few technical

harriers to further gains in efficiency. "The treods are historical, and they don't reflect what the real possibilities are," said Stephen J. DeCanio, an economics professor at the University of California at Santa Barbara who was senior staff economist at the Council of Economic Advisers under President Reagan. But, he ooted, wheo he and his wife shopped for new lamps, they couldn't find attractive models that took energyefficient fluorescent bulbs.

Doing Good by Doing Better

"Today, two-thirds of the energy used to provide electricity is squandered in waste heat," Mr. Clinton said as he proposed m reduce emissions to the 1990 level over the next 10 to 15 years. "We can do much, much

Mr. Clinton's plan relies heavily on narrowly targeted incentives and subsidies for efficiency, and environmentalists and other oations' negotiators in talks on a new greenhouse-gas treaty said it did too little too late.

Indeed, the United States, which has 5 percent of the world's population but emits nearly a quarter of its carbon dioxide, is turning in an embarrassing performance as it falls short of earlier goals to cut emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000.

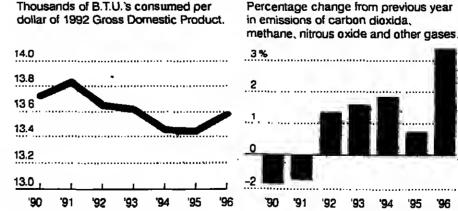
But was 1996's increase a blip on a graph, or a warning of a big problem ahead? Why did the economy suddenly become less efficient in its use of energy? The most obvious factor was the extreme-

ly cold winter weather, a statistical oddity that made people burn more fuel to heat Another way to burn more fuel these days

is by driving big gas-guzzling vans, trucks and sport utility vehicles, some of which get half the gas mileage of the average sedan.

Greenhouse Gas Gauge

1996 was a boom year for energy use in the United States, as the nation reversad a five-year decline in consumption and pumped out far more greenhousa gases.



The nation's fleet of vehicles is getting less efficient, and transportation is projected to overtake industry as the main consumer of energy, but the changes would not be expected to show up as sudden spikes in one year.

Another trend is the decline in efforts by electric utilities to persuade their customers to use less power. That practice spread for a while because power companies, whose earnings were regulated, were allowed to make money by spending on conservation instead of building new power plants. But with deregulation on the horizon, that strategy makes less sense to them these days.

For most people, saving energy still

Source: Energy Information Administration

makes financial sense, whether or not they are concerned about the problem of global warming over the next century or two. Mr. Clinton gave the example of a sixth-grade class in Iowa that took out a \$14,000 bank loan and installed conservation measures that

lopped 70 percent off its school's energy bills. "The savings were so impressive that the bank decided to upgrade its own energy efficiency," he said.

The next day, before a different audience, Mr. Clinton wondered aloud, "Why doesn't everybody do it? Why don't we even have a critical mass of companies doing it?"

Most experts say the answer is the price of

Incentives to conserve energy have declined along with its cost.

fuel. "Gasoline is the cheapest liquid you can get next to water, and it's much cheaper than bottled water," said Liewellyn King, who has been publisher of The Energy Daily since the glory days of the oil cartel in the 70's, when prices rocketed and Americans went on a conservation spree.

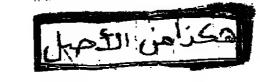
Lindsay Audin, who founded a consulting firm, Energywiz Inc., after retiring as Columbia University's energy-efficiency manager last year, said, "Consumers do not have the financial ability to pay the upfront costs. or the financial understanding that investments in efficiency make money. Companies do not understand that energy efficiency is not a cost center, it is a profit center."

Understanding Economics

Only when energy prices go up is that sure to change, he said.

"Price matters," said Dan Becker, climate policy director for the Sierra Chib, which has long called for stricter fuel-efficiency standards for vehicles.

"But Americans don't do great with amortization of costs. So it has got to be something that we know works. And the only thing we can think of that we know works is requiring that energy-saving technology be put on the things we drive, the things we use to heat our homes, the things we use to cool our food. We



THE JERUSALEM POST

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The World

Reversing Roles in a South African Dilemma

By SUZANNE DALEY

JOHANNESBURG HE arguments have been fierce and familiar: Affirmative action is only the smallest step toward redressing terrible injustice. Affirmative action is irredeemably divisive. Without the force of quotas, racism won't be dislodged. Quotas are anathema. And so on, in a debate that is not even close to resolution.

But in South Africa, the debate is new. And while the words sound like the struggle over racial preferences in the United States, the stakes in this nation, 88 percent nonwhite and hardly practiced in antidiscrimination law, make the Amercan experiment look puny. At risk, many here believe, is South Africa's very survival as a multira-

If the pace of change bere is too slow, it might lead to anger and frustration among nonwhites, tipping the country into the kind of violence that bas devastated so many African oations coming out from under white dominance. Yet too much affirmative action and white South Africans, seeing no future for them here, might leave in a hrain drain that most black leaders admit would threateo South Africa's future

What people on all sides of the debate do agree on is that private industry's early efforts at leveling the playing field after 40 years of apartheid have been a disaster.

The tension in corporate corridors is pal-. pable. Eager to hire any black South African who had an education and job experience, corporate South Africa - an almost-allwhite boys clob - went on a buying spree after President Nelson Mandela was released from prison in 1990.

Soaring Careers

Trying to anticipate the change that a new, black-majority Government would bring companies hired and poached from each other in a frenzy that had a limited pool of black managers and professionals job-hopping at a staggering rate. With each move. there were new cars, new bonuses, promo-tions and inflated salaries. There was, however, little or no training.

Not surprisingly, the backlash has been swift. Whites complain that blacks who are underqualified make moch more money than they do. Recent surveys have shown a growing number of chief executives officers declaring that affirmative action isn't working. And progress in bringing more blacks :... it has taken a long time to study the issue and the estimated and the state of the same of the state of the same throws with regard charge, and specing record in

TABLE - FILESTER STANDARD CARE AND AND A STANDARD A



South Africa's Government has provided new jobs for blacks. Senior post office managers meeting in Johannesburg last week.

into the managerial levels of the work force has pretty much come to a standstill.

"The oews is that there is no oews," said Angus Bowmaker-Falconer, who compiles a yearly survey on employment equity in assoclation with the University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business. This year, he said, "Things look pretty much as they did two years ago."

The subject of affirmative action is likely to split almost any gathering along racial lines, often infuriating blacks who cannot believe that with so much injustice to make up for, whites aren't embracing programs meant to redress inequality.

In South Africa, It is not an issue of the majority agreeing to help out a minority group. Here, it is the vast majority of this country's citizens who were systematically denied education and jobs. And it is this majority that oow controls the Government.

· Indeed, the Government is on the verge of unveiling affirmative action legislation. But Submitted at the state of

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· 1985年 1986年 1

has chosen a path that most consider a careful balancing act - a carrot-and-stick approach that does not include quotas.

There are some who question whether affirmative action even needs to be a racebased policy. Rachel Jafta, who lectures on economics at the University of Stellenbosch, suggests that any policy that reaches out to poor rural areas or bolsters training and education is already furthering affirmative action goals, without bringing in any racially divisive component.

Side Effects

"We have to weigh the costs and benefits," Ms. Jafta said. "There are so many side effects with race-based programs. We could be jeopardizing a united South Africa." Others argue that South Africa may not be

able to afford the costs of affirmative action. Tony Leon, the head of South Africa's liberal, largely white Democratic Party, which has always opposed apartheid, says .. will be expected to file an affirmative action

that the costs are potentially enormous. Packages already given to whites to induce them to leave Government jobs, he said, had cost the country more than \$200 million.

Mr. Leon is also concerned about oepotism creeping in under the flag of affirmative action in the redistribution of government jobs. In some areas, he said, what has happened is not affirmative action but a full family employment act. "What you bave is literally the wives, the cousins and the sisters getting jobs," Mr. Leon said.

Certainly the Government, while not following any set affirmative action policy, has been a tremendous source of new jobs for hlacks. In some areas, it appears to have gone beyond what the law allows. For instance, earlier this year, a lower court decided that a Justice Department policy to reserve about 30 senior jobs for nonwhites

Under the Government's new legislation, each business, even relatively small ones,

The affirmative action debate sounds a lot like America's, but the reality isn't.

plan outlining targets. Each will be reviewed for reasonableness. For instance, since there are few black certified accountants in South Africa, a company might be excused for suggesting small numbers in this area.

We don't expect corporations to grab someone from the bush and put him in the boardroom," said Loyiso M. Mbabane, the Director of Equal Opportunity from the Department of Labor.

Rewards and Fines

Companies that do well are expected to have an advantage in getting Government contracts. Those that don't make progress could be fined.

Still, some affirmative action advocates say the Government is being too soft in not requiring quotas. They point out that interest in the issue seems to depend on the Government's own action in the area, and that business simply reads the Government's sigoals. Before the election, for instance, there was lots of interest because it was widely believed that the new Government would swiftly impose an affirmative action law. In one survey of 65 chief executive officers, more than half said it was the top "strategic issue facing the new South Africa."

After the election, when the Government did not move immediately to institute new laws, affirmative action quickly slipped to seventh on the list. The most recent surveys show it back up to No. 2.

Certainly apartheld left a footprint that will be hard to sweep away. Most of South Africa's wealth is concentrated in the hands of whites, who make up about 12 percent of the population. At the same time, 70 percent of all black people live below the poverty line. About 50 percent are illiterate. Even after all the hiring of the last few years, blacks make up only 4 percent of the managerial ranks in private companies.

"If you say leave it to the goodwill of the eople," said Bonang Mohale, a board member of the Black Management Forum, a nonprofit advocacy group, "It will not get

China's Cultural Profile

Continued From Page 1

extremely tentative, apparently feeling the need to consult widely with colleagues before taking positions on issues large and small.

With the Chinese leadership still highly secretive about its workings, Mr. Jiang's visit this week will probably offer American officials and citizens their first good look at him. Up to now, Mr. Jiang has been known primarily for his extreme caution in public, where he often reads from a prepared text even when he is regurgitating the party line. From Mr. Jiang's example one may conclude that the Chinese system rewards leaders for back-room consensusbuilding and scheming more than any ability to wow a crowd.

On the one hand, be comes off as smug and imperturbable, as though be cares only about matters Chinese and is quite prepared to ignore international concerns about human rights, the environment or trade disputes.

On the other, however, are hints of insecurity. Mr. Jiang's demand for the ceremony that awaits him at the White House - Chinese officials insisted on a 21-gun salute, the red carpet and a state dinner - attests to his need for formal recognition. He was badly miffed two years ago when, during a visit to the United Nations, the Clinton Administration tried to arrange an informal meeting at the White House. Mr. Jiang now is finally getting what he wants.

Today, China can look to Westerners like a fast-growing behemoth with a locomotive economy and a militaristic regime determined to get its way by any means necessary, even through campaign contributions abroad.

Such an exaggerated view overlooks many essential features of Chinese life, including overwhelming poverty, a disorganized economy and a fragile political system. It also obscures deeper cuitural and social fissures that keep China mired in self-obsession and a sense of victimization at the hands of foreigners.

"They're caught at kind of the intersection of being a victim on the one band and a major country on the other," said Kenneth G. Lieberthal, a China scholar at the University of Michigan. "Victims preach morality, always play a weak hand, always ask for you to accommodate to them to make up for past wrongs. Major countries have broad responsibilities, shared responsibilities for how the region and the world fare. The Chinese can't quite figure out where they are on

Crashing in Asia

Paper Tigers, Paper Miracles

By DAVID E. SANGER

WASHINGTON HEN the history of the Asian crash of 1997 is written years from now, people will probably have long since forgotten the accusation by Malaysia's paranoid-sounding premier, Mahathir Mohamad, that the source of the problem was a Jewish conspiracy to level Asia's booming economies. By then it should be clear whether Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, the New York Republican and chairman of the Banking Committee, was accurate or blowing smoke when he declared that the dramatic fall of the Hong Kong market Thursday was a "lesson for all freedom-loving people around the world" of the dangers "now that the Communist Chioese have takeo over" Asia's most vihrant center of capitalism.

By then, historians may have concluded that John Kenneth Galbraith's diagnosis was closer to the truth, even though he was talking about the causes of another market crash, a bigger one, in 1929. Then, too, there was a search for conspiracies and plotters. But in the end, Mr. Galhraith coocluded, the real cause was a delusional hubris about America's economic power, fueled "by the seminal lunacy which has always seized people who are seized in turn with the notion that they can become very rich."

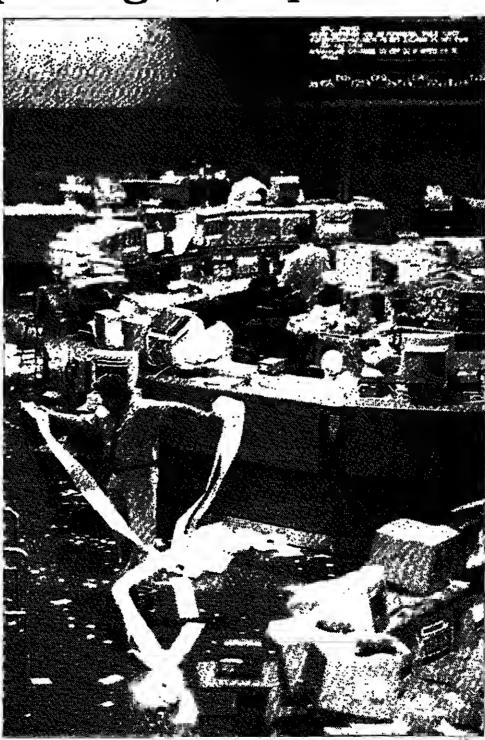
There has been a lot of that hubris in Southeast Asia for the better part of a decade now - and it has led a lot of very smart people, investing cash drawn from around the globe, to do a lot of stupid things. With every book entitled "Asia Rising," with every news article projecting stupendous economic growth, with every talk show about the decline of the West, the markets climbed higher.

Virtually everyone playing in the markets knew that the banks in Thailand were lending money for office towers no one was actually occupying. They knew that Malaysia was building a Silicon Valley long before it had trained engineers to fill it. They knew that investors in Hong Kong were lining up to buy shares in "Red Chips," mainland Chinese firms whose only real asset was that the company's president was the cousin of someone in the Chinese leadership.

Follow the Broker

But when the market keeps rising, when your broker keeps repeating that the next century belongs to the Asian Tigers, it is easy to justify pouring in more and more cash.

That is why the first victim claimed by the currency speculators - Thailand - never had a chance. The Thais had become the weakest link in the chain, forever finding excuses not to implement the austerity measures that were desperately needed, like closing more than 50 hanks linked to prominent politicians.



At the Pacific Exchange in Los Angeles, Hong Kong's plunge had depressing effects.

"These guys are in a state of shock," Lee Kuan Yew, the founder of modern Singapore, said recently. "They can't believe it happened it to them. They thought only sleepy Latin Americans had currency crises."

Then other nations throughout the region began explaining why they were different from Thailand - more disciplined, less corrupt, better regulated. It was a little like

listening to a New Yorker explain to himself why the mugging that just went down three blocks away could not happen in front of his own building.

In this case, the muggers were emboldened. Speculators make their fortunes sniffing out hidden inconsistencies between the value of a currency (or a sky-high stock market) and the underlying fundamental strengths of the country. Then they plunge into that chasm, betting billions against the local currency or stocks and forcing the government to choose between preserving their exchange rate (usually by jacking up interest rates) and saving the economy.

Once Thailand surrendered, calling in the International Monetary Fund for a bailout, Malaysia and Indonesia were next. The Malaysians fought hack, though Mr. Mahathir was forced to kill off his expensive pet projects; the Indonesians surrendered.

Model Economy

What happened in Hong Kong last week, though, was something completely different. Malaysia and Thailand are still fundamentally poor oations: Hong Kong, while tiny, has a per capita GNP that rivals the United States'. Its markets are the higgest south of Tokyo. It has long been the West's idea of a model economy for the rest of Asia — no trade harriers, little corruption, well-funded banks, a Government with plenty of financial reserves to battle the speculators.

So why did the speculators attack? Because once everyone else in Southeast Asia devalued their currencies, making their goods cheaper, Hong Kong suddenly looked like a phenomenally high-cost place to do business. (Just count the empty hotel

While the Government spent \$3 billion to \$5 billion battling the speculators, the prospect of a long siege wiped out a lot of that remaining bubris. "I lost the equivalent of five Mercedes," one investor whimpered. The red chips got hit the hardest; some lost half their value over the past month.

And balfway around the world, the ripples hit quickly. By late Thursday, Mexico and Brazil were falling, too - in a selloff that only got worse on Friday -- for fear that they are the next natural targets.

But as Treasury Secretary Robert E. Ruhin, who knows from his long years on Wall Street what it feels like to be on the wrong side of a bear market, said, "markets go up and markets go down," and sooner or later Asia will rise again.

The big question is what happens to the man who can't wait: President Jiang Zemin

Mr. Jiang, who arrives in the United States today to begin a weeklong state visit, has staked his political future on his ability to bring the Chinese economy into the 21st century. That means shuttering hundreds of thousands of state-owned enterprises that lose billions of dollars a year and turning the survivors into world-class competitors.

The problem is that to do so requires billions of dollars in capital. Much of it was going to come from China's new pearl, Hong

"Hey, they wanted to take back the center of Asian capitalism," the American head of a large brokerage in Hong Kong said Friday morning. "Well, bere it is. All his."

Ideas & Trends

Brave New Power Grid

By RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA

OULD offering a bird-feeder coax people into dumping the electric company they've known all their lives for one they've never heard of? How about a spruce sapling? Or a claim that the new company's power is "greener"?

Several power companies think so, resorting to such marketing ploys in a pilot program in New Hampshire that has allowed 15,000 families and businesses to choose their supplier since May 1996. And judging by the success new competitors have had in luring customers away from established utilities, the gimmicks, advertised in mailings and on radio, may be working.

New Hampshire's experience may be a taste of the future for much of the country, as states dismantie the nearly century-old system of electric monopolies. Several states, including New York, California, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island, will phase in utility deregulation during the next several years, and several others, including Massachusetts, New Jersey and Connecticut, are expected to follow soon after.

For the first time, regional utilities will be able to cross each other's borders and vie for each other's customers. Power wholesalers are expected to begin entering retail markets, taking on the utilities that have been their customers. And new retail companies will probably form around the country, promising to link consumers to the cheapest, cleanest or most reliable power available.

Caution: Confusion Ahead

Policymakers hope this new competition will translate into lower prices, much as it did in the long-distance telephone market. But the long-distance experience offers some cautionary tales. Breaking AT&T's grip on the market has led to lower rates, but at times has also led to less reliable service and a barrage of competing claims about price and service that are all but impossible for most consumers to gauge.

"I don't think most people have a clue whether they're really getting the best deal on long distance, and I'm afraid that's where we might be beaded with electric competition," said Susan K. Weinstock, chief utilities analyst with the American Associatioo of Retired Persons. "In New Hampshire, companies were touting green power that turned



Electric companies are using ads to compete for consumers in New Hampshire.

out to be no greener than the oext guy's power."

Another lesson from the long-distance wars is this: most people have stayed with AT&T, perhaps because in the end the three major competitors' prices don't vary much. Similarly, many analysts believe that in the face of bewildering offers by rival utilities, consumers will opt for the devil they know rather than choose, say, Enron or Sithe, giant energy companies that want to become retailers but are relatively unknown to the general public.

"I think it's very difficult to predict what will bappen," said John F. O'Mara, chairman of New York's Public Service Commission. which plans to phase in competition over the next four to five years. But, be added, "a lot of people will want to stay where they're comfortable."

In the New Hampshire experiment, however, 70 percent of customers switched in the first six months. That may be because the old utilities were small and did not carry the brand-name power of a Consolidated Edison. Or it may be because oew entrants seriously undercut the old monopoly prices (competition eventually forced rates down about 20 percent). Or it may be that a lot of energy companies were eager to use New Hamp-

shire as a test case and pushed harder there than they will elsewhere. Or it may be none of the above.

"One thing we've learned here is that you can sit around and talk about these things endlessly but until you try competition, you really have no idea what it's going to look like," said Robert J. Frank, a lawyer with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. "The only thing you can be sure of is confusion."

Environmentalists are encouraged that many of the companies' pitches in New Hampshire focused on claims, some of them well-founded, that the power they were offering was generated with less pollution than their competitors'.

"The choice of a power supplier could turn out to be the single most important environmental decision an individual consumer can make," said Ralph C. Cavanagh, energy program director for the Natural Resources Defense Council. Power plants, the group says, produce two-thirds of the nation's sulfur dioxide emissions, one-third of the carbon dioxide and ooe-third of the nitrogen oxide, making them leading contributors to acid rain, smog and the greenhouse effect.

Mr. Cavanagh predicted that many consumers would jump at the chance to choose cleaner power sources, even if it meant paying a bit more, and that power companies would be quick to take advantage of that fact.

New Wrinkles

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Another new wrinkle could have electric companies, like long-distance providers, offering lower rates at off-peak hours, when it is cheaper for them to supply power. Few homes and businesses have meters that can track usage by the hour, but the promise of lower rates could make it worthwhile to install such meters.

While some consumer advocates fear the confusion that competition will bring, others

fear there will not be enough competition. In the long-distance business, nearly all the cost to the provider is in equipment that is already in place. Actually supplying the service - connecting the calls - costs almost nothing. As a result, it's possible to make a fairly healthy profit on each oew customer, making it worthwhile to pursue that customer aggressively.

Supplying electricity is expensive by comparison. Each additional customer means, in most cases, burning more fuel. And most analysts believe competition will mean slim



profit margins, leaving little money for chasing customers. "In the electric market, the individual residential customer is not going to be that attractive to the power companies," Ms. Weinstock said. "They may decide it's only worth it to go after the big commercial customers."

New Players

That's when another new player, a company called an aggregator, could enter the market. An aggregator would sign up consumers, promising to find them the best rates for a small fee. Then it would bundle them in groups of hundreds or thousands, and offer their business to power companies. But so far that is no more than a predic-

tion. In New Hampshire, aggregators failed to find a niche because so many companies wanted to compete directly for small cus-

For now, all eyes are on California, On Nov. 1, 70 percent of the state's residents and businesses will be free to choose their electric supplier for service starting Jan. 1.

"No one is quite sure what is going to happen here," sald Mr. Cavanagh, who is based in San Francisco. "But it's going to be

An L.R.S. worker sorting returns in 1985. The agency's service centers still use an antiquated system.

Tax Code's Whipping Boy

Continued From Page I

in 1986, when Congress closed a host of loopholes and lowered top tax rates but never seriously considered adopting a new approach to taxation.

Today Capitol Hill is awash in competing proposals to "scrap the code," as the latest Republican rallying cry puts it. The House majority leader, Representative Dick Armey of Texas, is pushing for the adoption of a single-rate flat tax that would require a tax return no bigger than a postcard, an approach that Steve Forbes championed in his campaign for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1996.

A National Sales Tax

Mr. Armey has been staging debates around the country with Representative Billy Tauzin of Louisiana, who is pressing for a national sales tax to replace the income tax. That approach, which is also favored by Mr. Archer, is one that would allow for total abolition of the LR.S.

Not to be outdone, Representative Richard A. Gephardt of Missouri, the Democratic leader and probably the leading challenger to Vice President Al Gore for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 2000, bas a plan that he says would put 75 percent of taxpayers in a 10 perceot tax bracket.

But each proposal to dump or to radically alter the progressive income tax system bas economic or political credibility problems. A flat tax system, with oo deductions, would require the abolition of cherished tax breaks like the mortgage-interest deduction and would

tend to shift the tax burden from the wealthy to the middle class.

A national retail sales tax would create huge incentives for cheating, while falling most heavily on people at the lower end of the income scale. And even if the problems of these plans could be overcome, as advocates of each insist is possible, the logistical difficulties of moving from one tax system to another in an economy of the size and complexity of the United States' could prove insurmountable.

Moreover, Republicans are also sorely tempted by the political appeal of just continuing to push through tax cuts under the current system. That temptation is growing along with the likelihood that in the next few vears the Federal budget deficit could be wiped out by the strong economy, further freeing Congress from the constraints of fiscal austerity.

So while the debate about fundamentally changing the tax system seems likely to rage on at least through the next Presidential election, for now the country is stuck with the Internal Revenue Service and the system, based largely on voluntary compliance, that it

For all the very real horrors that have been inflicted on taxpayers who find themselves in disputes with the I.R.S., the vast majority of Americans will never have any more than routine dealings with the tax collector, however much they hate having to turn over their money to the Government.

And tax officials proudly point out that the level at which individuals voluntarily pay their full tax bill about 83 percent, a rate that bas remained steady for two decades - appears to be the highest in the world.

Humoral Sap

Ancient Cures for Open Minds

By RICHARD A. SHWEDER

NE of the surest ways to bring a luncheon conversation to a halt at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md., is to suggest that pblegm, bile and wind are neurotransmitters. So why then did the institute recently send biomedical scientists to findia to confer with Ayurvedic physicians, who still believe that ill-sorted humors of the body cause unbalanced minds?

Despite some recent concerns over Government funding of research on alternative therapies and scoffing by skeptics, an estimated ooe-third of Americans are using these treatments, despite their doctors' disapproval.

Humoral medicine is a case in point. Although it was discredited in the 17th century in the West, it has made a comeback in spas, health food stores and bealing centers across the country, in botanical extracts, aroma therapies, purges and holistic diets.

There is even a curiosity among some N.I.M.H. scientists, who are concerned about the high cost of drug development and who acknowledge the prevalence of psychosomatic illness. They are reevaluating alternative medicine as a body of knowledge rather than dismissing it as quackery.

Culinary Process

Humoral medicine had a iong run in the West, starting in ancient Greece. In 159 A.D. sick gladiators sought out Galen, who drew oo medical theories from the time of Hippoc-

Here is a decoction of the doctrine: There are four basic humors of the body (phlegm, black hile, yellow bile, blood), four basic qualities of sensory experience (hot, cold, wet, dry) and four basic ingredients of things going in and out of the body (fire, air, water, earth). Health means harmony, and fine-tuning is possible. If the body is dry, make it wet. If it is hot, cool it off. You are what you eat, and also what you excrete.

The essence of humoral thinking, according to the historian R. M. Yost, Jr., is the idea that the human body cootains juices and fluids whose ratios regulate health. When there is an

Richord A. Shweder is chairman of the University of Chicago's Committee on Human Development. He was o member of the National Institute of Mental Health expedition to India.

excess of some bumoral sap, the body heats up, reduces substance, separates the boiled from the unboiled parts and evacuates the stewed remains. The aim of the bumoral physician is to assist this oatural culinary process with warmers and coolers and to facilitate the evacuation process with purges, emetics and bleed-

Although Hippocrates is often described as the father of medicine, Agniveśa, Suśruta and several other ancient South Asian physicians could easily win a paternity suit. Their brain child, Ayurvedic medicine (the science of life), is an even older verslon of humoral thinking.

The oldest surviving Ayurvedic text, the Caraka-Samhita, probably dates from the sixth or seventh century B.C. Buddha's doctor was an Ayurvedic physician. So was the doctor of

Now, doctors aren't laughing at bodily-fluid jokes.

Morarji Desai, the Indian Prime Minister in 1979.

Official support for bumoral medicine in South Asia has waxed and waned over the centuries, just as it has in the West. News of its demise at the hands of English scientists spurred its regenesis in India. Indian nationalists in the early 20th centory proudly rejuvenated the science of life as proof of their intellectual automony. Since Indian independence in 1947, the medical wisdom of the ancients has been turned into a growth

industry with Government subsidies. There are Ayurvedic medical schools, journals, pharmacies and drug companies. Lotions, potions, massages and purges are used by hundreds of millions of Hindus, for everything from wrinkles, backaches, asthma and hair loss to impotency, senllity, diabetes and schizophrenia. The old remedies, preferably prescribed in Sanskrit, are thought to be closer to the truth, and are popular in contemporary Indian society, even among the Westernized elite.

In recent decades the elites in the West have been catching on, once again. One measure of this is a recent scientific mission organized by Dr. Stephen H. Koslow, director of Neuroscience and Behavioral Science at the National Institute of Mental Health: Dr. Koslow led an expedition of Western psychiatrists and pharmacolo-

gists to India to examine Ayurvedic medicine as a potential source of

The N.f.M.H. delegation took a trip to Kerala to visit the Arya Vaidya Sala (the Pure Ayurvedic Doctor's Clinic), which uses Ayurvedic methods. There, bysteria and chronic headaches are treated by streaming medicated milk onto the patient's forehead. Asthma, inflammations of the vertebrae and other afflictions associated with dryness, desiccation and an excess of wind are counteracted with a gentle wet massage.

In the gardens of the clinic the medicinal roots and shoots of the jungle are cultivated by a botanist, who expounds the doctrine of signatures, which he attributes to Galen. "God created plants," he says, "as a provision for the health of buman beings, and left a sign on them some feature of their shape, color, habitat or behavior - for human beings to decipher." He points to a plant sbaped like an ear that is a cure for ear aches.

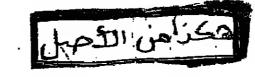
In the factory of the Kerala clinic an Indian nuclear physicist oversees a major industrial apparatus where they distill, standardize and mass produce 2,500-year-old legendary decoctions. An M.B.A. from the Wharton School of Business takes care of the accounts. As the West lies down with the East, there are not enough beds in the clinic's nursing home to accommodate the international demand for its medical regimes.

Why Now?

Why is it now that humoral medicine, with its antique remedies from out of our past, has returned in the United States? It is the bet of some neuro-pharmacologists at N.I.M.H. that Ayurvedic practitioners know something about barks, roots, leaves and other botanical provisions for human beings that they can no longer afford to overlook.

It is also a response to recent research on the power of mind-body effects. It is the bet of some psychiatrists at the institute that Ayurvedic healers know a lot about the salubrious reality of placeho cures.

And what do they say in India when the institute comes knocking on their doors? They say it is good to experiment with things to touch, smell and eat that are tailored to your own personality, that are less biologically shocking and invasive than a wonder drug. Any medical tradition that is 2,500 years old, they say, and has a half a billion enthusiastic clients must be doing something right.



THE JERUSALEM POST

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ECONOMY

Entering the Brave New World of General Motors

By ROBYN MEREDITH

DETROIT PIN the steering wheel of a Chevrolet Lumina and the car is slow to turn. Press bard on the gas, and there's a long pause before it accelerates. And, somehow, the Lumina manages to look large on the outside and feel small on the

. None of this stops executives at the General Motors Corporation from feeling completely satisfied. The Lumina is making money, good money, thank you, in the treacherously competitive midsize car market. Because of its relatively low price and carefully focused marketing, the car is a favorite among price-conscious families and retirees.

"People love it," said John F. Smith Jr., G.M.'s chairman and chief executive. "It's a beautiful car, it's highly regarded, it's got great customer satisfaction, it's got excellent

What it doesn't bave is a lot of fans in motordom. "It's kind of a rent-acar," sniffed David E. Davis Jr., editor of Automobile magazine. "A car dealer once told me that the problem with General Motors is that nowhere in the United States is there a 14year-old boy with tears in his eyes saying, 'Please, Dad, buy a Lumi-

That's O.K. with Mr. Smith. Let unduly risky in a world of undulating Chrysler dazzle buyers with racy new styling. Let Ford push out some of the hottest oew trucks. Profits are Mr. Smith's mantra, not pizazz. Because in the last analysis, his plan for completing the resuscitation of the world's biggest company is to make money steadily at home while leading G.M. into the biggest overseas expansion in its history.

Since taking over in 1992, when the company lost money on nearly every sale of a car or truck, Mr. Smith has brought G.M. back from the brink. He has pared its work force and closed or sold 29 unneeded factories while shaking up a complacent culture and highly bureaucratic structure. In just five years, he has engineered one of the biggest financial turnarounds in American corporate history. Waves of red ink have been replaced by near-record profits. The company's share of the United States market has stopped shrinking and begun growing. And Wall Street has bid the stock up, about 31 percent since July alone, past levels not seen in three decades. It hit an all-time high on Wednesday of \$72.4375; it

closed on Friday at \$68.0625. Mr. Smith plans to take a quintessentially American enterprise and turn it into a company that by 2006 plans to sell more than balf its cars and trucks outside the United States, up from just 43 percent last year.

And while that strategy may seem

HONG KONG INDEX

Set equal to the World

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378.63

211.51

on Nov. 1, 1996, ...

currencies, madcap financial markets and unsettled emergent economies, the impetus is clear: G.M.'s traditional bases - the United States and Europe - are slow-growth markets where profits go to companies that cut costs best. So G.M. figures it has no choice but to aim at foreign markets with a potential for double-

digit growth. In G.M.'s upper echelons, the talk is not so much about the future at home as about the future in Brazil, Poland and China. Just last week, the company expanded its plans to build Buicks in Shanghai. It has just produced a "global Cadillac," to be sold in more than 40 countries, and its Opel division in Europe is busy sending designs to new factories on three continents

But is G.M. up to the job? Just how deep has its turnaround been? Has it cut costs enough, breathed enough life into its suffocating culture and put the right people in place, both at home and abroad? And if the Lumina stands for the proposition that the biggest doesn't have to be the best, will that corporate realpolitik continue to sell at home, let alone around the world?

After all, G.M. isn't the only big car company to realize that the action is now in points east and south. Industry analysts complain that there are already too many factories around the world pumping out ever more cars and trucks. And what bappens to G.M. when the American economy hits a wall, as it eventually must, and a recession sweeps buyers from the nation's auto showrooms?

There are some who say Mr. Smith's success has come only as a result of the strong ecocomic expansion at home. "He has lucked into the best market in history and done not very well," said Gerald C. Meyers, the former chairman of American Motors who is now a professor at Carnegie Mellon's Graduate School of Industrial Administration. "G.M. profits are being driven by a consistently powerful market, not a consistently powerful management," added Mr. Meyers, who says he believes that oeither G.M.'s cars nor its market share bave improved enough to signal long-term success.

Yet most outside experts are more optimistic, albeit cautiously so.

'Give them to the year 2000 or 2001, and you won't be able to count the profits " said James E. Harbour. a manufacturing efficiency expert at Harbour & Associates in Troy, Mich., who was among the first to predict the current resurgence of Chrysler. Mr. Harbour, once one of G.M.'s fiercest critics, now lauds the company for its gains in productivity and

O be sure, the experts acknowledge that G.M. was such a basket case that even the most minimal improvements were bound to bring huge gains.

"Measured against the old G.M. standard, they're doing very well," said Maryann N. Keller, an auto anaiyst at Furman Selz L.L.C., a New York investment banking and brokerage firm. "Measured against where they need to be and have to be, they're still not there, and it has been five years."

The company still lags behind its peers in many important efficiency measures. Nor has it reached Mr. Smith's goal of an average 5 percent profit margin, in good times and bad, and a 12.5 percent return on net assets, a financial benchmark G.M. uses to measure how effectively the corporation uses its assets. For the first nine months of the year, G.M.'s net profit margin was 4.3 percent, and the return on net assets was

running at about 10 percent.

There is also no question that some hig bumps lie ahead. Its glohal expansion drive is already causing strains — the chairman of the company's Adam Opel unit in Germany, David J. Herman, may soon be forced out. The divising has been struggling to compete in Europe while it also shoulders responsibility for the small cars G.M. sells in emerging markets. G.M. has a troubled relationship with the United Automobile Workers union, which has shown little reluctance to shut down the company during disputes.

And rivals like Mercedes-Benz and Toyota have moved into its core area of profits - the sale of sport utility vehicles, mini-vans and pickup

Still, Mr. Smith can take pride in managing a buge swing to profitability. The year before he took over, G.M. was losing an average of \$969 on each car and truck sold. Now, it is earning an average of \$769 (an estimated \$700 for each Lumina) and is on track to beat last year's total profit of \$4.96 billion. Yet G.M. is still behind Toyota, which earned more than \$1,150 per vehicle in the first nine months of 1997, as well as behind Chrysler, which had average profits of \$1,306 a vehicle in that period.

its problems, David E. Cole, director of the Office for the Study of Automotive Transportation at the University of Michigan, said the company was starting to frighten its competitors for the first time in decades. "In the next couple of years, unless

Although G.M. still basn't fixed all

some disaster happens, you're going to see a really very strong company," Mr. Cole said. "The road map is there, and it is just a matter of getting down the road."

Mr. Smith acknowledges that not all the oumbers are where he would like them, but adds that "we're nowhere near finished" with cost-cutting and other improvements.

What is crucial, he and other G.M. executives say, is playing to the company's strong suits: "We oeed to take advantage of our size, which is our greatest strength," Mr. Smith

Now, G.M. is belatedly trying to act like a manufacturing company run by accountants, like an international giant run by global executives and like a consumer products company run by marketers.

In practical terms, that means using common components and processes worldwide. Indeed, the company is simultaneously building nearly identical factories in four countries: Argentina, China, Poland and Thailand.

It also means mining the giant company for talent. Mr. Smith, who is 59, has salted his top ranks with younger executives with deep financial and foreign experience. These include Louis R. Hughes, 48, who heads G.M.'s international operations; G. Richard Wagoner. Jr., 44, president of North American operations; John F. Smith, also 46, no relation to the chairman, who heads the Cadillac division, and Mark T. Hogan, 46, general manager of the

North American small-car group.

One of the linchpins of G.M.'s turnaround, outsiders say, is value pricing - selling cars, like the Lumina, that are more attractively priced than others in their class. The company can still make money on those cars if it succeeds in harnessing its enormous size to produce cost efficiencies. And the cars will continue to sell well, industry experts say, as long as their value offsets their inability to quickeo a driver's pulse. The '98 Lumina sells for \$17,795; its competition includes the Ford Taurus, which starts at \$18,795.

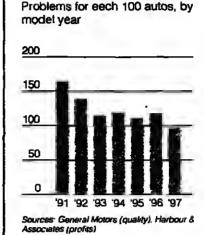
R. SMITH is hardly the swashbuckling chief executive you might expect it would take to turn around the giant auto maker. Whenever possible, be steers clear of the limelight, and when be must give a speech, it is usually wooden yet sincere, delivered with his boyhood Massachusetts

Mr. Smith started hacking away at the huge waste that for so long plagued the company, making mostly unglamorous changes that customers don't notice. It was a task for which be was well-suited. After starting as a bean counter at a a G.M. factory in Framingham, Mass., he worked in G.M.'s powerful treasurer's office in New York before helping to turn around the company's trouhled European operations in the

He faced layers of inefficiencies. Buying auto parts, raw materials and other supplies eccount for roughly half the company's costs, but it wasn't long ago that G.M. had 27 independent purchasing centers just for North America. Mr. Smith con-

Better, but Not the Best

General Motors has steadily improved the quality of its cars end trucks, end their profitability, too. But for the 1997 model year, G.M. still lagged behind the industry's quality average of 86 problems for each 100 vehicles, according to J.D. Power & Associates. And while G.M. beat Ford's profit per vehicle of \$660, it remained well behind Honda (\$1,050), Toyota (\$1,150) and Chrysler (\$1,306).



solidated global purchasing efforts

inm one office, enabling G.M. to push

requires fewer workers. The 1997

Chevrolet Malibu, for instance, was

designed to be built by 22 percent

fewer workers than were needed for

the car it replaced. A couple of years

ago, G.M. installed 240 different

steering columns in its cars and

trucks; soon, It will use just a dozen

companywide, Mr. Harbour said.

URTHER cost-cutting is cru-

cial because G.M. expects it

won't be able to increase prices

in any meaningful way in the United

States the next five years, given the

slow growth and intense competition

Ask Mr. Smith about the North

American market, in fact, and he

looks weary; but ask him about fast-

growing areas like Eastern Europe

and China, and his eyes light up. He

waxes on with a tone of wonder.

about Shanghai, noting that 2,000

skyscrapers are being built in the

Mr. Smith's goal is to have 10

Worldwide, G.M.'s market share is

Having worked overseas, far from

Detroit's stultifying culture, Mr.

Smith and other top executives were

able to employ modern management

techniques. They have imported

some of the lessons, however obvi-

Industry experts give high marks

to Mr. Smith's remaking of G.M.'s

culture. "It really was putting com-

mon-sense business principles m

work," said David Bradley, an auto

analyst at J. P. Morgan Securities

Mr. Smith championed teamwork,

benchmarking, innovation and con-

tinuous improvement — not the

back-stabbing competitioo between

divisions and the resistance to

change that used to be G.M.'s hall-

marks. Early on, Mr. Smith shut-

tered the executive dining room. Ex-

ecutives are now encouraged not to

hide bad news. And a headquarters

bureaucracy that once numbered

13,000 was trimmed to less than

1,000, greatly speeding decisions

VEN with new management,
G.M. has made plenty of mis-

· While Chrysler has just complet-

ed its first car designed entirely on

computer, seving eight months and

about \$80 million in the process, G.M.

takes, including the following:

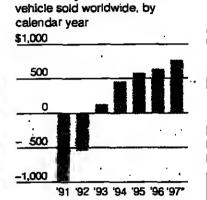
throughout the company.

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17 percent.

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Net loss or profit for each

"First nine months

only recently settled on one computer system to use for its paperless cars and is years away from having

for better deals as it bought big quantitles of everything from steel to car any on the streets. radios — a legacy of its troubled • In Europe, G.M. watched Mr. relationship with its former purchas-López defect to Volkswagen and ing chief, José Ignacio López de Ardrastically cut that company's costs, riortua. The efforts saved \$8 billion just as he had done for G.M. in Detroit. Volkswagen predictably low-G.M. engineers are also following ered its European prices, and while the lead of Toyota and other efficien-G.M. belatedly scrambles to cut its cy experts and designing cars with European costs, it is watching oncefewer parts, so that assembling them

> Europe. General Motors still sells some truly awful cars; the Buick Skylark and Oldsmobile Achieva are so bereft of curb appeal that G.M. will oot send the 1998 models to dealerships, only to rental car fleets.

steady profits tumble to losses in

· After building a popular new Customers are unlikely to notice the small-car division, Saturn, G.M. bas watched its sales languish recently because there is no Saturn sport utility vehicle to keep buyers from defecting to Toyota's RAV4 or Honda's

· Although G.M. has introduced 15 new models in the last 18 months that are light-years ahead of those they replace, auto reviewers and Wall Street analysts concur that few, if any, are truly better than the competition, which is already developing its oext onslaught.

"They are still playing catch-up, and they will play catch-up for a long time," Ms. Keller of Furman Selz

Still, perhaps the best example of percent of the Asia-Pacific market the new, faster-moving General Moby 2005, up from 4.5 percent now. tors came last year, when the company was weighing plans to spend several bundred million dollars for a new headquarters.

In early March 1996, Matthew P. Cullen, a G.M. real estate planner, learned that Detroit's landmark Renaissance Center, a complex of five shiny glass cylinders, was for

G.M. changed course, and in just a month's time, the \$75 million deal was done. In the old G.M., "I would have gone to somebody who went to somebody and then it would've been reviewed by 15 committees," Mr.

Cullen said. And the company has elevated the role of its long-neglected marketing efforts. In late 1994, G.M., which seldom scouts for executive talent from outside its ranks, brought in Ronald Zarrella, who bad been president of Bausch & Lomb, to revamp the company's rudderless marketing.

Mr. Zarrella has sought to counteract a perennial problem at G.M.: internal competition that allowed, for instance, some of its Chevrolets to compete most fiercely against Pontiacs, not Fords and Toyotas. Mr. Zarella bas aimed each of G.M.'s car and truck models at specific slivers of the market. The company markets Luminas, for instance, to buvers looking not for precision handling but for a set of relatively cheap, reliable

1.39 207.77 36.5 224.74 - 0.8 Germany 379.72 -19.0 4.20 377.06 Hong Kong -48.02.62 260.17 -21.3 118.63 - 5.9Indonesia 13 2.63 368.45 34.6 16.3 382.29 - 0.8 143.37 32.5 1.66 51.2 110.65 - 1.0 Italy 114.15 - 3.7 16 -11.6 22 0.91 87.51 - 7.6 Japan 316.17 242.16 -18.1 27 -59.9 2.26 Malavsia 41.8 1.64 14,793.01 1.729.85 - 7.3 22 Mexico 2.28 369.91 404.47 - 2.1

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard &

Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's in

Week Week YTD YTD Dividend

- 5.5

6.7

46.0

13.2

17.8

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38.0

5.7

21

18

15

11

IN U.S. DOLLARS

23

conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

- 7.6

- 2.0

- 0.6

- 0.6

0.7

- 4.1

202.56

223.66

416.65

339.00

226.32

238.10 - 2.9

276.84 - 6.8

320.60 - 4.4

PERFORMANCE

Country

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Brazil

Britain

Canada

Denmark

Finland

WORLD INDEX

In U.S. dollars

New Zealand	87.78	- 8.8	20	- 4.4	20	4.11	74.65	8.2
Norway	364.59	- 0.6	4	23.4	7	1.74	353.44	38.0
Philippines	83.90	-13.2	24	-58.8	26	1.44	147.38	-44.8
Singapore	237.89	-15.1	26	-43.3	24	1.82	173.27	~36.0
South Africa	324.63	- 3.3.	15	1.9	19	2.54	335.50	3.1
Spain	250.76	- 1.3	10	14.1	14	2.37	284.82	31.5
Sweden	490.60	- 3.2	14	18.3	12	1.88	552.19	29.5
Switzerland	311.65	- 0.8	6	30.8	5	1.17	284.16	43.1
Thailand	33.12	-15.0	25	-65.4	28	5.67	49.56	-48.0
United States	384.33	- 0.1	2	27.3	8	1.61	384.33	27.3
COMPOSITE	NOICES							
Europe	279.12	- 2.8		16.5		2.43	263.18	28.7
Pacific Basin	124.71	- 6.1		-16.1		1.50	97.13	-11.3
Europe/Pacific	189.14	- 4.1		1.4		2.07	159.36	9.6

254.98 - 2.1 Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close

6 1996 The Financial Times Cit., Goldman, Sai	REVELES	4		
Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Wesk % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to tha U.S. dollar German marks to the U.S. dollar Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar U.S. dollars to the British pound	121,07 1,7730 1,3917 1,6335	120.68 1.7718 1.3863 1.6166	+0.99 +0.07 +0.39 +1.05	113.35 1.5122 1.3863 1.6370

13.7

Source Gloomberg Financial Markets; exchange rates as of Friday's New York close

Oct. 20-24: After the Dow Drops 4% in 2 Days, All Eyes Turn to Monday

	DOMESTIC BONDS		AROUND THE WORLD	
Down 0.27% 941.64	Treasuries Ryan Labs. Total Return	Up 0.99% 208.22	European stocks F.T. Actuaries Europe	Down 2.77% 279.12
Down 1.68% 7,715.41	Municipals Bond Buyer indax	Up 0.95% 120.63	Asian stocks E. F.TActuaries Pacific Ba	Down 6.13% Isin 124.71
Down 0.39% 447.53	Corporates Memill Lynch Master index	Up 1.05% 919.11	Gold New York cash price Foreign indexes are given in dollar	Down 5.40% \$308.60
+20%		+20%		+20%
	941.64 Down 1.68% 7.715.41 Down 0.39% 447.53	Down 0.27% 941.64 Treasuries Ryan Labs. Total Return Municipals 8 Bond Buyer index Corporates 447.53 Merrill Lynch Master index	Down 0.27% Treasuries Up 0.99% 941.64 Ryan Labs. Total Return 208.22 Down 1.68% Municipals Up 0.95% 7,715.41 Bond Buyer index 120.63 Down 0.39% Corporates Up 1.05% 447.53 Memill Lynch Master index 919.11	Down 0.27% 941.64 Pressures Ryan Labs. Total Return Down 1.68% 7,715.41 Down 0.39% 447.53 Treasures Ryan Labs. Total Return Down 0.95% Bond Buyer indax Up 0.95% F.T. Actuaries Europe F.T. Actuaries Pacific Ba F.T. Actua

5.01% Long bonds 30-year Treasuries Down 17 basis pls Up 3 basis pls. Taxeble everage 5.73% Bank C.D.'s Down 16 basis pts 2 year Treasuries 1-year small savers Up 1 basis pt. Municipals Stocks S. & P. 500 dividend yield Bond Buyer index Down 6 basis pts Up 1 b.p. 100 basis points = 1 percentage point 90-DAY RELATIVE TREND 08+ Change in Change in basis points

YIELDS OTHER INVESTMENTS **BONDS** 6.27% Money market funds

Sources: Bank Rate Monitor: Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer, Datastream,

Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Memil Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs

The New York Times

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Re-elect Mayor Giuliani

This year's mayoral campaign has been, by any standards, a disappointment. The Democratic nominee, Ruth Messinger, has criticized Mayor Rudolph Giuliani endlessly, but failed to give the voters a sharp sense of her own political philosophy. Ms. Messinger, who has a long and distinguished career in local politics, deserves to be remembered for her previous service to the city rather than for this uninspiring race. But even if she had run a model campaign, it is hard to imagine how she could bave made a convincing argument for getting rid of Mr. Giuliani. Despite the many disagreements we have had with the Mayor over the last four years, we endorse his re-election enthusiastically.

The critical problem with the Democratic campaign became apparent at the first mayoral debate. when Ms. Messinger tried to deny that New York's quality of life bad improved over the last four years. She was arguing against the voters' own sense of reality. Crime is down dramatically. New jobs bave been created in the private sector. The welfare rolls are smaller. The city bas a budget surplus. The school system has a new, more rational structure. Tourism is skyrocketing, and the city's reputation as a good place to visit, live or do business bas improved dramatically.

Each of these achievements is subject to caveats. Crime is down across the country. But under Mr. Giuliani, the improvement has gone beyond a mere reduction of felonies, to a higher expectation of civility. New Yorkers no longer apathetically assume that they have to put up with aggressive panhandlers, squeegee men or parks full of makeshift bousing encampments. Most residents have an increased sense of control over their neighborhoods, and this is most critical in poorer sections of the city. Low-income black and Latino families are no longer expected to reconcile themselves to gunfire in their streets and drug dealers on their doorstens.

Mr. Giuliani's fiscal record bas been belped along by a booming national economy, which produced budget surpluses during the last part of his term but did not end the long-term boom-and-bust pattern of the city's finances, or the huge projected deficits a few years down the road. Nevertheless, the Mayor scored some impressive successes. He made hard choices during his first years in office. Unlike his recent predecessors, who also knew how to cut when times were tough, be did not return to business as usual once the economy improved. The head count in city agencies bas not ballooned back to its pre-austerity level. He kept his promise to reduce taxes with modest, targeted cuts aimed at encouraging business growth.

· When It comes to economic development. though, Mr. Giuliani's biggest achievement was his battle against organized crime at the wbolesale food markets. New York bas long suffered from the perception that the city is overrun with crooked unions and extortionate industries under mob control. The war to clean up the Fulton Fisb Market and Hunts Point Produce Market, and even the Mayor's insistence on forcing new management on the San Gennaro festival in Little Italy, bad a critical symbolism. Coupled with the dramatic reforms in the carting industry and the unions working at the Javits Convention Center, the Mayor's initiatives were a giant leap in convincing businesses that they can come here without worrying about overt and hidden snakedowns.

New York was ready for a dramatic turnaround when Mr. Giuliani took office, and that need became even more urgent when a new Republican Congress began sbutting down the old pipelines of economic support to cities and the poor. A place this big, with so many jealously guarded bits of political

turf, does not turn easily. New York, like many cities, favors mayors who bring forceful and at times obsessive leadership. Mr. Giuliani projects that quality. Ms. Messinger, despite her deep understanding of city issues, seems more professorial or bureaucratic in temperament.

Mr. Giuliani's combative temperament is a bit like nuclear fission. Harnessed in the right way, it is a tool for progress, drilling through previously impervious bureaucratic and political barriers. Some of Mr. Giuliani's well-chosen targets have included the Port Authority, the State Legislature and the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association. His pugnaciousness is less attractive when it is aimed at an individual whose only sin was to make a legitimate criticism of the administration. The public got another sampling of that knee-jerk inclination to lash out at opponents recently when the Mayor delivered a divisive assault on Ms. Messinger for failing to finish the route of the Columbus Day

The best and worst of Mr. Giuliani's style showed in his fights over education. The public school system was virtually ungovernable when be took office, with impossibly complicated lines of authority and a culture of non-achievement in many districts. The Mayor has little real power over the schools, but his over-the-top behavior in starving the education budget, persecuting the former chancellor and terrorizing the school board created a sense of crisis that did bring about the impetus for change We cannot buy into Mr. Giuliani's claim that his performance was a carefully calculated tactic. However, it did focus public attention on the problems long enough to get real reform, and we believe he is sincere in his intention to create a better learning environment for the city's children over the next four years. Still, it is not an experiment we would like to see tried very often. Instead of being improved, the school system could very easily have been shattered.

Due to term limits, Mr. Giuliani, will have at most another four years at City Hall. If be is reelected, his opponents will be less willing to roll over, and he will have to win future victories with more negotiation and less bluster. He will also need to attract a new cadre of top managers to fill out the ever-shrinking circle of advisers and commissioners. Mr. Giuliani does not share the spotlight readily, and after four years of his administration, there are few stars and many yes-men and -women at

Ethics bas, surprisingly, been a weak spot for Mr. Giuliani, who seems to believe that his administration is too honest to need much regulation. Mr. Giuliani's tenure has been blotted by instances in which he failed to abide by standards be demanded of others, from his insistence on using city funds to pay for what were basically re-election ads to his refusal to acknowledge that there is any problem with maintaining two politically powerful allies as advisers to the administration while they work for a lobbying firm that does business at City Hall.

Given Mr. Giuliani's overall record and the weak campaign Ms. Messinger bas waged, pointing out these faults does not argue against the Mayor's re-election. But Mr. Giuliani's ability to moderate his style may make all the difference in the legacy he leaves behind. If he curbs his worst tendencies and gives full rein to his energy, determination, intelligence and independent thinking he may go down in history not simply as a competent politician who rode out some favorable economic and social trends, but as a Mayor who turned New York City around and reshaped its future.

Editorial Notebook

India Wrestles With the Raj

A Queen's Gesture of Penitence Reignites a 50-Year-Old Debate

The novelist Paul Scott described India and Britain in the last days of the raj as "locked in an imperial embrace of such long standing and subtlety it was no longer possible for them to know whether they hated or loved one another." Earlier this month, those ambivalent emotions flared again as Queen Elizabeth tried her best to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Indian independence. There was the Queen venturing to the northern Indian city of Amritsar, where she reflected sorrowfully on one of the great strocities of British rule, kicking up clouds of nostalgia, resentment and hurt feelings.

The Queen's visit to the walled garden of Jallianwala Bagh, where thousands of unarmed civilians were mowed down by British troops in 1919, was not seamless. Even as she placed a wreath at the garden and wore a saffron dress, the sacred color for Sikhs and Hindus, Prince Philip could be heard on the sidelines belittling the death toll claimed by India. Prime Minister I. K. Gujral of India dismissed the need for a royal apology in a tone of let-bygones-be-bygones, then called Britain a "third-rate country" after it was reported that London

had offered to mediate between India and Pakistan. In an era when political leaders are apologizing for historical misdeeds, India is surely a distinctive case. Many of its citizens retain a benign attitude toward their former oppressor, symbolized best by a pervasive feeling among the intelligentsia that the old imperial institutions have declined since the "tryst with destiny" proclaimed in 1947 by the founding Prima Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. Implicit is the idea that India

has failed to preserve the gifts Britain left behind. But of course, the army, the culture of ruling elites, the civil service and other creations of the raj were designed oot to instill democracy but to bring India to heel. Small wonder that they have been corrupted over time as New Delhi sought to lift India out of poverty and tame what Nehru called its "fissiparous tendencies."

Amritsar is a symbol of Indian as well as British blunders. While there, the Queen also visited the Sikh religion's Golden Temple, which by 1984 had become an arms depot for Sikh terrorists, whose secessionist campaign posed a grave threat. Acting in imperial style, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Nehru's daughter, directed the army that year to seize the temple in a bloody raid that left more than 700 dead and led to Mrs. Gandhi's assassination several months later by Sikh security guards. India's rolling crises have now shifted to Muslim-dominated Kashmir, where at least I00,000 troops are stationed to quell a rebellion.

The fact is, India was a more impoverished country after British rule than before. The raj exploited Its divisions and educated only the elite. At the end, Britain left in such haste that no one was prepared for the Hindu-Muslim conflagration triggered by the partition of India and Pakistan. Paul Scott's "Raj Quartet" closes with its British protagonists labeling those riots "our crowning

India's struggle to remain free, secular and united still stirs the emotions: But one must admit that there is an imperial dimension to this vision, and an anxiety over whether it will be imposed by force on India's sprawling landscape of ethnic, religious and linguistic entities. The drama of India's next 50 years will no doubt be its struggle to follow a democratic path, transcending the iron fist inherited from the raj. STEVEN R. WEISMAN

NATO Expansion Shows West's Global Ambition

To the Editor:

According to Warren Christopher and William J. Perry (Op-Ed, Oct. 21), it is a strategic Imperative that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization shift "emphasis from defense of members' territory to defense of commoo interests." Out of context these are nice-sounding words. In context, they portend disaster.

The Christopher-Perry thesis carries with it the dangerous idea that it is the rich, predominantly white nations' burden to define how the rest of the world is to act. This project is counter to the direction inteoded at the end of World War II, when it was taken for granted that the world's common interests could best be represented in the United Nations.

Mr. Christopher's and Mr. Perry's coocern is "proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, disruption of the flow of oil, terrorism, genocidal violence and wars of aggression in other regions that threaten to create great disruption." But why should NATO be the sole judge and jury of actions to be taken outside of NATO's purpose was to keep the Soviets out, the Germans down and the Americans in That purpose is no longer necessary. MARCUS RASKIN Washington, Oct. 22, 1997

The writer, a former National Security Council staffer in the Kennedy Administration, is a fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies

Beware Russia's Reaction

"NATO's True Mission" (Op-Ed, Oct. 21), by Warren Christopher and William J. Perry, provides answers to key questions in the debate over ex-

pansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. But the answers do not oecessarily correspond with reality. Foremost is the question of NATO's

future relations with Russia. Mr. Christopher and Mr. Perry envision a benign relationship between the two based on the NATO-Russia Founding Act, which notes that NATO and Russia do not consider one another adversaries. On the other hand, Jesse Helms, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman, is on record as a supporter of expansion only if it is designed to counter Russia.

Obviously, the desirability of any future configuration of NATO depends on Russia's likely reaction. Too often, this issue is relegated to the misty premises of the argument rather than laid down as its foundation. We need to know why Russia would respood positively to military encirclement and why, conversely, the absence of NATO expansion

On Asian Currencies, Markets Don't Know Best

To the Editor:

"An 'Asian Miracle' Now Seems Like a Mirage" (front page, Oct. 22) says "heedless spending," "over-ambitiousness" and "self-indulgence" were tha sins for which Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia were punished in securities and foreign exchange markets, Missing is an ex-

New Gay Newspaper Is Cause for Optimism

To the Editor:

I wish to clarify my commeots in 'A Mini-War of Gay Newspapers; A New Weekly Draws Fire Even Before Its First Issue" (news article, Oct. 22).

While I am critical of the refusal of both The Washington Blade and The New York Blade News to include editorial pages, and while I expressed concern over The Washington Blade's linking up with News Communications Inc. to found The Blade News, I stated emphatically that The Washington Blade is among the best leshian and gay papers in the country. I also expressed overall optimism about its creation of The New York Blade MICHELANGELO SIGNORILE New York, Oct. 23, 1997

Creative Support

To the Editor:

Larry Kramer has gone too far in his criticism of a gay newspaper that accepted financial support from heterosexuals (news article, Oct. 22). Were the producers of his recent plays homosexual, heterosexual or both? I'm sure that if he accepted hacking from either, or both, it didn't conflict with his creativity. After all, didn't Barbra Streisand buy the film rights to Mr. Kramer's "Normal FRANK PERICH

New York, Oct. 22, 1997

A Loughlin Education

Joe Claro (letter, Oct. 24) takes exception to your statement that Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School in Brooklyn "was known as an elite school ranked with Stuyvesant High School" (obituary, Oct. 22). He sweepingly asserts "that Loughlin was considered by many Roman Catholic parents to be only a cut above average public high schools."

It is true that one, two or three boys from each parish in the region were selected, but cootrary to Mr. Claro, they were those who scored highest on the exam out of the 60 or more studeots who took it. Moreover, ooce they entered Loughlin, they were subject to rigorous academic discipline comparable to Stuyvesant's. A great many were expelled hy the end of the first year for failure to maintain academic standards or discipline.

Besides Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and Brother James Bonilla, there are thousands of doctors, lawyers and engineers, businessmen and clergy who provide ample testimooy to the excellence of a Loughlin edu-ANTHONY R. SPINELLI

New York, Oct. 24, 1997 The writer is a 1954 graduate of Bishop Loughlin Memorial H.S.

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic moil to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

planation of how, precisely, govern-

ment profligacy caused the crisis. If the Malaysian Government spent large sums on environmental protection and education instead of on the projects you mention, like skyscrapers and big dams, would currency traders have refrained from attacking the ringgit, the Malaysian currency? Not likely.

In focusing on examples of wanton speoding, you miss the larger picture: with the internationalization of financial markets, national economies (particularly developing countries') have become more vulnerable to the dictates of those markets, and governments are therefore more constrained in the policies they can pursue. The same market forces that "discipline" governments may constrain the pur-

suit of loftier social goals.

It is questionable that financial markets know best, as you appear to assume. That assumption is not supported by the contagion effect we are witnessing in which a decline of confidence in one currency has generated a decline in confidence in the currencies of surrounding nations regardless of differing economic cir-JENNIFER MET New York, Oct. 22, 1997

For the Homeless. A Dismal Equality

To the Editor:

The establishment of a reserved sleeping area for bomeless people on a downtown Los Angeles sidewalk (front page, Oct. 23) recalls an observation by Anatole France. The French novelist once noted that "the law, in its majestic equality, forbids the rich as well as the poor to sleep under bridges."

In our more enlightened age, it can be presumed that both classes in Los Angeles will have an equal right to set up cardboard boxes and bed down in LLOYD L. BROWN that location. New York, Oct. 23, 1997

To the Editor:

We read with astonishment and a keen sense of irony your Oct. 23 frontpage article on homeless inhabitants in Los Angeles being assigned areas within designated lines between which to sleep (front page, Oct. 23). As seasoned New Yorkers, we immediately spotted the sad analogy to the homeless lined up like cars in an overcrowded parking lot.

With this institutionalization of homelessness, can "alternate-side-ofthe-street sleeping" be far behind? After all, it would allow for regular sweeping of the area and more sanitary conditions. Will the city issue summonses for sleeping on the wrong

Or not awaking by 8 A.M. to change HENRY DLUGACZ PABLO PAGAN New York, Oct. 23, 1997

The New York Times Company 229 West 43d St., N.Y. 10086-3959

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would promote Russian aggres-BEAR F. BRAUMOELLER Ann Arbor, Mich., Oct. 21, 1997

'Original Mission'?

Warren Christopher and William J. Perry (Op-Ed, Oct. 21) claim that the "original military mission" of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was to deter an "attack from the Warsaw Pact." NATO was formed in 1949. The Warsaw Pact was not created until 1955, in response to an earlier NATO expansion, to wit: the admission of West Germany in 1954.

NATO's "original military mission" was to project American influence onto the European continent, the same goal as the current expansion MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN 3D Philadelphia, Oct. 22, 1997

The writer is o professor of politics at Drexel University.

Better Bankruptcy

To the Editor:

Re "Battle Emerging on How to Revise Bankruptcy Law" (front page, Oct. 19): During the 1990's there have have been more than nine million hankruptcles, affecting 1 in every 100 households. Bankruptcy laws have helped to give many people in desperate situations a fresh start. Most bankruptcy cases are filed by ordinary middle-class people who are employed and contribute to society.

The revision of the present laws without legislation to fix the causes of insolvency is like trying to cure cancer with aspirm. For example, a bank wanting insolvent debtors to pay back their debt after a Chapter 7 bankruptcy should be limited by tough standards for issuing that debt and then be limited to reasonable interest rates and short-term paybacks on credit cards. This way, debts would stand a better chance of being repaid.

If everyone in this country were protected against medical emergencies, the bankruptcies caused by those circumstances would not exist. Finally, if advertising encouraging people to take vacations they deserve out thought they could never afford would be curbed, the road to saner spending would be paved. MARTIN FISHER New York, Oct. 22, 1997

Helping Smokers Quit

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Your Oct. 23 news article on bupropion, an antidepressant that can help people quit smoking, says this drug can achieve a 23 percent rate of smoking cessation after one year, Current" estimates suggest that for all people who stop smoking, no matter what method they use, about 20 percent are still not smoking after one year.

Although bupropion may ald a certain hard-core population with particular difficulties with nicotine, one may wonder about its benefit as a larger public health measure. Studies have shown that It takes many smokers at least six attempts at quitting to. maintain their gains over one year and eventually kick the habit. There has been a tendency to medicalize smoking cessation when work on motivation and methods of habit control may prove more successful in many

SAUL D. RAW Brooklyn, Oct. 24, 1997 The writer is a clinical instructor of social work in psychiatry, Cornell University Medical College.

Rights Abuses in Turkey

'Turkish Court Yields to Police Officers Accused of Torturing I4" (news article, Oct. 23) notes that Turkish authorities "concede there have been incidents of torture in detention centers, but insist that they are isolated." They are not.

In 1990 the New York City Bar Association reported on its human rights delegation to Turkey, on which I served, that found that such torture was widespread and that the legal system's response was a failure. A follow-up report last year stated: "Widespread, systematic torture, particularly against detainees in police custody, is well documented by ... international governmental associations and the United States Government." RHODA H. KARPATKIN Yonkers, Oct. 23, 1997

Clean Car's Wrong Turn

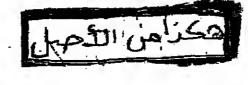
To the Editor:

Re "In a Step Toward a Better Electric Car, Company Uses Fuel Ceii to Get Energy From Gasoline" (news article, Oct. 21): Federally sponsored research into this promis-

ing technology is veering off course. Fuel-cell vehicles powered by alternative fuels like hydrogen could soon deliver the zero-polluting, highefficiency answer to air pollution and global warming.

But the Government's proposal to cram gasoline into fuel cells makes them dirtier, more complex and expensive. Powering a 21st-century technology with 20th-century fuel seems anything but visionary. Lim-Ited Federal finances would seem better aimed at breaking down harriers to new fuels that unleash the full potential of fuel cells rather than facilitating the longevity of petro-

leum dinosaurs. Jason Mark Berkeley, Calif., Oct. 23, 1997 The writer is 0 transportation analyst for the Union of Concerned Scientists.



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Russian aggres-F. BRAUMOELLER ich. Oct. 21, 1997

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her and William J. 21) claim that the mission" of the eaty Organization "attack from the TO was formed in Pact was not creat. ponse to an earlier to wit; the admis-200 EB 1954 military mis-

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Essay WILLIAM SAFIRE

THE JERUSALEM POST

The Interior Decorator

WASHINGTON Gambling tends to corrupt; political power purchased by gamhling money corrupts absolutely.

Nowhere is the gamhling industry's evil more biatant than in its use of American Indian tribes as fronts, and in its enrichment of politically adept tribal leaders - at the expense of other tribes and the reputation of all Native Americans.

Kevin Gover of Albuquerque is the gamhling lobhyist for the Tesuque (te-SUE-key) Pueblo tribe. On Feb. 20, 1996, Gover met President Clintoo at a White House coffee; the Pueblo of Tesuque subsequently gave \$50,000 in soft money to the Democrats.

Mr. Clinton rewarded the lobbyist with comination to be Assistant Secretary of Interior for Indian Affairs. Two weeks ago, Federal Judge James Parker declared Mr. Gover's client, the Tesuque casino, to be a "criminal enterprise" using "money that is derived from unlawful conduct."

Thus does crime pay. Fund-raiserlobbyist Gover, whose Senate confirmation hearing is scheduled for Thursday, will be in a position to use Federal power to encourage generous criminal gamhling enterprises to blossom on reservations across the land.

He'll fit right in at Interior. Bruce Babhitt's domain seems to have been the Indian fund-raisers' target for a lucrative political fix.

'Talk to O'Connor here," Mr. Clintoo said on April 24, 1995, to his closest aide, Bruce Lindsey. "about his concerns about tribes that he represeots." Patrick O'Connor is a former D.N.C. treasurer whose clients are gambling-rich tribes in Wisconsin eager to stop three Chippewa tribes from competing with them with a new casino at a racetrack in Hudson, Wis.

Despite a written warning from an aide that "we legally cannot intervene with the Secretary of Interior on this issue," Lindsey apparently obeyed the President's order because wheels were soon in motion to block the Chippewas: O'Connor and his tribes met with D.N.C. chairman Don Fowler the following week; Fowler contacted Harold Ickes at the White House and got him to lean on Bruce Babbitt at Interior, (Ickes professes no recollec-

tion of this.).
Result: Interior ruled against the poorly connected Chippewas, to the delight of the opposing tribes, which in

Conspiring high levels.

kicked in \$300,000 to Democrats. The Chippewas sued; a Federal judge held in March that "there is a distinct possibility that improper political influence affected" Interior's decision.

Now Secretary Babbitt has some heavy explaining to do. Last year, he told the Senate he was not influenced by the White House. But this year a Harvard friend of his, Paul Eckstein, who had made a vain pitch for the Chippewas, swore that Babbitt told him at the time that the opposing tribes had contributed something "on the order of half a million dollars" and that Ickes at the White House had ordered him to make the decision.

Babbitt has now artfully changed his story. "I do believe that Mr. Eckstem's recollection that I said something to the effect that Mr. Ickes wanted a decision is correct," he wrote Senator Fred Thompson two weeks ago. Babbitt, who still loyally denies being influenced, refuses to be deposed by Senate staff before testifying, preferring that his questioners be

Does this potential hribery touch Bill Clinton? Among the documents that White House Counsel Charles Ruff improperly fights to keep from view is a note from the President to chief of staff Leon Panetta described only as "Hudson casino matter."

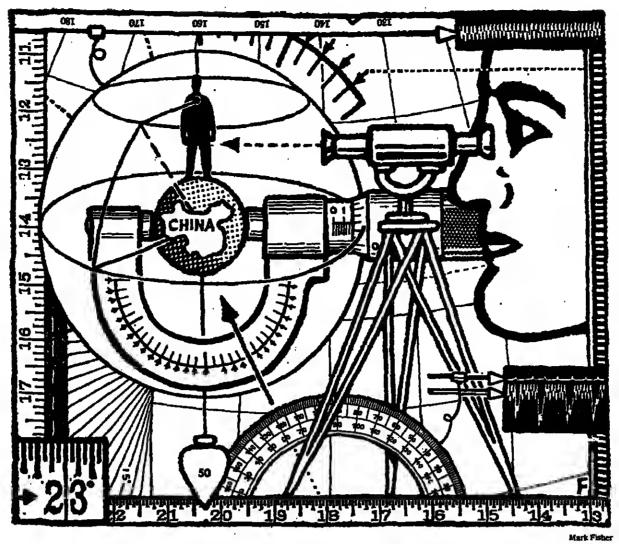
Clinton was obviously worried about revelations of influence-peddling as Election Day approached. Another memo he's biding under a privilege claim is dated Oct. 22, 1996, from an associate White House counsel to an aide to Harold Ickes on "status of Hudson casino litigation." Another came the next day from Panetta to the President, same subject, answering Clinton's note by transmitting a memo from a White House counsel to an Ickes aide.

Did the money-hungry President, through his political henchmen Lindsey and Ickes, put in the fix to his Secretary of the Interior for a \$300,000 contribution?

Congress has prodded a reluctant Justice into an inquiry; the specific information behind that question might induce Janet Reno to seek appointment of a RICO-minded Inde-

pendent Counsel. We can also hope this Clinton exploitation of Native Americans will cause Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell to reject the nomination of the lobbyist for a crooked casino to head Indian Affairs at Interior.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1997



Virtue by Other Means

ingly important country. The discus-

sion has been framed in terms of a

choice between containment and en-

gagement. They are inadequate

terms. But it should be noted that we

have something better than abstract

speculation to go on concerning their

For over the last half century the

United States has tried both, From

1949 until 1972 it opted for contain-

ment, nonrecognition and virtually nil

engagement - and that period was

one of almost uninterrupted disaster

and misery for the Chinese people.

From 1972 until now, the United States

has opted for active eogagement -

and, despite occasional setbacks,

those years bave been ones of spectac-

ular Improvements both in economic

direct causal relationship between en-

gagement and improvement. But the

two are surely not entirely unrelated,

and the President is right when he

insists that America must now stay on

that course of engagement.

This, of course, does not establish a

conditions and, yes, human rights.

respective merits,

By Owen Harries

WASHINGTON he issue of human rights always figures promioently in American foreign policy discourse. This year, the sustained focus on China oow culminating with the visit of President Jiang Zemin - has given it a particular salience and intensity.

Many, perhaps most, Americans of all political persuasions believe profoundly that it is their oation's right and duty - indeed its destiny - to promote freedom, justice and democracy in the world. As President Clinton said in his speech on China two days ago, "To do otherwise would run counter to everything we stand for."

It is a noble and powerful impulse, one not casually to be ridiculed or dismissed. But acting on it — if one is concerved to be effective and not merely to feel virtuous — is more complicated and difficult that many human rights activists will allow.

Typically, the proponents of human terms. They regard those rights as absolute, and demand consistency in their application, denouncing anything less as hypocrisy and cynicism. These denunciations are given some plausihility by the failure of administrations to live up to inflated official rhetoric on the subject. Bot the truth is that while individuals and special-interest groups are free to give human rights absolute and unqualified priority, governments are not.

For the activist, human rights are a cause. But when they are incorporated into a government's foreign policy, they become an interest, one among many. Their claims have to be balanced against those other interests, many of which - apart from having a compelling practical importance have moral cootent and moral claims of their own (for example, peace, security, order, prosperity). The place that human rights will occupy in the hierarchy of interests will oecessarily

vary from occasion to occasion. Sometimes, as when the violation of rights is horrendous and no other vital interest is at risk, they will rank very high; sometimes they will have to give way to other compelling interests. America's wartime alliance with Stalin's Soviet Union is a striking example of such a subordination.

It would be convenient if all one's interests always pointed in the same direction, but they don't. In his cele-hrated essay, "Two Concepts of Liberty," Sir Isaiah Berlin makes this point in somber terms:

"If, as I believe, the ends of men are many and not all of them are in principle compatible with each other, theo the possibility of conflict - and of tragedy - can never be wholly eliminated from human life, either personal or social. The necessity of choosing between absolute claims is then an inescapable characteristic of the hu-

man condition." Not hypocrisy or cynicism, note, but "an inescapable characteristic of the

human condition." The other factor that complicates the application of human rights policy what makes it not a simple matter of consistency but a complicated one of judgment and discrimination - is the variability and particularity of cir-

"The circumstances," insisted Edmund Burke, "are what render every civil and political scheme beneficial or noxious to mankind." What makes good sense in one set of circumstances may well be futile in another - and positively disastrous in a third. Consider, for example, the frequent, extended and well-intentioned American interventions in Central America and the Caribbean earlier in this century. At best they were futile, at worst (as in the state of affairs resulting from the prolonged occupation of Hai-

Owen Harries is the editor of The National Interest. .

ti) positively harmful, Consider also some of the "circum-

stances" that are relevant in the current case of China.

First, the population of China is greater than the combined populations of North America, Europe and Russia. Imagine the task of governing all three of those vast territories from

What good comes from hyperventilating about China?

one center. You may theo begin to appreciate the problem that the governing of China would present even to the smartest of governments - let alone to a bunch of elderly men saddled with very had and outdated political habits and a distorting ideology.

It will also help to keep some numbers in perspective — and while for the moralist every individual counts, in politics numbers matter. According to human rights activists, the number of political prisoners in China currently is 3,000 — which is 0.00023 percent of the total population. (Given the many receot articles that have presented a China that seems hardly distinguishable from the totalitarian horror of the mid-century, I should report that in Beijing recently I asked a group of Westero correspondents how thuggish they considered the regime to be these days. Offered a choice between Louisiana in the 1950's and Mussolini's Italy,

they all opted for Louisiana.) Second, in this century, China has experienced the collapse of a traditional regime, warlordism, civil war, invasion, famine and mass terror. A mere quarter century ago it was still experiencing a massive convulsion hrought about by the manipulations of a megalomaniac (one, let us remember, who at the time was admired as a font of wisdom by many in the West). A country with that abysmal record is likely to put an unusually high premium on maintaining order and stahility, and be willing to subordinate much to achieve those ends.

Third, for the last two decades or so China has been experiencing what is prohably the fastest rate of economic growth and transformation in human history. In the late 1970's Deng Xiaoping declared that the Chinese economy would quadruple in size by the end of the century. At the time it seemed just another extravagant Communist boast, hut China has already passed that target

he effects of this extraordinary progress are complex. On the one hand, the present must seem like a golden age for most Chioese: there is order, there is peace, there is unprecedented prosperity, and the state weighs less heavily on their backs than at any time in the last 48 years. On the other hand, the frantic growth has also created serious strains and problems, among them pervasive corruption, environmental devastation, unemployment in state enterprises and a lailure to develop institutions essential to the new economy (including legal and hanking systems).

For the ruling elite these and other problems raise serious uncertainty about control and stability. Fear of things getting completely out of hand - what President Clinton rightly referred to as China's "historical fears of chaos and disIntegration" - must be real. Urgent domestic pressures and opportunities are what will determine the behavior of the Chinese leaders in the loreseeable future, not outside influences.

Still, the United States will have to decide on a policy toward this increas**WEEKLY REVIEW**

In America **BOB HERBERT**

3:00, Nowhere to Go

are 3 P.M. to 8 P.M., with the biggest, most dangerous hurst coming in the very first hour after school.

"In the one hour after the school bell rings, juvenile crime triples," said Sanford Newman, a lawyer and president of a national organization called Fight Crime: Invest in Kids. The fundamental problem, of

course, is a lack of adult supervision. The number of families that leave children unsupervised for part of the day has increased drastically in the past two to three decades. More women are working, more couples are divorcing and more children are being born to single mothers. After being closely supervised all day, millions of youngsters find themselves suddenly on their own at 3 P.M.

A report prepared for Attorney Geoeral Janet Reno hy Mr. Newman and James Alan Fox, dean of the College of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University, said: "Experts estimate that between five and seven million 'latchkey children' go home alone after school, and that roughly 35 percent of 12-year-olds are regularly left to fend for themselves while their parents are at work."

A lot of those kids get in trouble. Some will vandalize property, some will do drugs, some will have sex (the hours immediately after school are the peak hours for the conception of teen-age pregnancies), some will join gangs and some will commit iolent crimes.

The report to Ms. Reno focused on the crime problem and said a national commitment to well-run afterschool programs would be among the most effective ways of responding to

"When we send millions of young people out on the streets after school with no responsible supervision or constructive activities, we reap a massive dose of juvenile crime," the report said,
"If, instead, we were to provide

studeots with quality after-school programs, safe havens from oegative influences, and constructive recreational, academic enrichment and community service activities, we would dramatically reduce crime while helping students develop the values and skills they need to become good neighbors and responsible adults,"

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids is a hipartisan crime prevention group. Its membership is composed primarily of high-ranking police offi-

The peak hours for juvenile crime cials, prosecutors and victims of crimes

Youth programs are seen as a critical crime-fighting tool by police departments across the country. A national survey of police chiefs found that 92 percent believed the nation could make much sharper inroads against crime if there was a willingness to invest more in youth develop-

ment programs and activities. In an interview last week, Police Chief George Sweat of Winston-Salem, N.C., said: "In our local system

Peak time for youth crime.

we used to have after-school sports and they cut hack oo them in the late-80's, and I think that's been one of the problems we've had with crime after school. It's since then that we've felt the hrunt of the juvenile crime."

Chief Sweat said Winston-Salem had been considering the possibility of an II P.M. to 6 A.M. curfew for young people, but when he looked at the peak hours for juvenile crime he quickly found that the overnight period was ont the problem.

"It just hlew us away," he said. "There was no comparison. It was that period after school when we were finding our juvenile suspects and our juvenile victims. Right after school is when most of the kids are still congregated together, they haveo't totally dispersed, and that's wheo you see the influence of the had kids. You know, 'Let's follow the leader.

"The other kids get caught up in it. The fisticuffs. They go the 7-Eleven and shoplift. The statistics will show you that the after-school programs are far more important than a cur-

Mr. Fox said the need for afterschool programs will only grow over the next several years as the oation's teen-age populatioo increases substantially. But he cautioned against seeing such programs simply as a way of fighting crime.

They will reduce crime," he said, hut they are needed for other reasons as well. "It is not a great idea that we bave more and more kids who are getting less and less supervision. For their general well-being, we need to get more adults into their lives."

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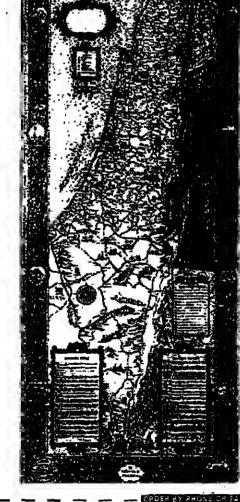
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Laura Nyro: An Enigma Wrapped in Songs

By DEBORAH SONTAG

T WAS so often repeated that It became pop music legend: Laura Nyro, early in her precocious career, bombed at the 1967 Monterey Pop Festival, booed off the stage by a stoned audience that couldn't follow her meandering lyri-

But it wasn't true, this supposed fact that appeared in oearly every ohituary of the singer and songwriter who died last spring at 49 of ovarian cancer.

Footage of the landmark concert by the filmmaker D. A. Pennebaker shows instead a mesmerizing performance by Nyro, who casts the occasional darting glare at a lousy backup band. And when she finishes, a half-smile belying her disappointment, the crowd applauds heartily, and one man even cries: "Beautiful!" There is nary a boo.

"She just imagined the whole thing," Mr. Pennehaker said.

Nyro's oversensitive misreading of this performance, which she perpetuated and no one challenged. helps explain the central enigma of her career: why she ran away from stardom. Although many rock historians consider her an equal to the best 1960's musicians, Nyro vanished at her professional apex and, while eventually re-emerging, never claimed the overarching fame that was nearly hers. She never had a hit single or a gold record, although her songs - "And When I Dle," "Stoned Soul Picnic" and "Wedding Bell Blues," among others - earned

Immediately after her death, in April, Nyro's family and close friends declined to talk about her publicly, zealously guarding her lifelong desire for utmost privacy. Now, though, on the eve of a Nyro tribute concert this week at the Beacon Theater in Manhattan, they have been more forthcoming, offering a quite simple, if seemingly clichéd, explanation for her retreat from the limelight: Nyro opted out of the music business because its crassness and commercialism increasingly offended her artistic soul.

them for other artists.

Perched on a stool in his modest apartment in Manhattan, Nyro's proud father, Louis Nigro, an 81year-old piano tuner, sighed. "She should have had as least as many gold records on her walls as Neil

Sedaka," he said. "But Laura was always very sensitive. She didn't like collaboration. She didn't like compromise. She was an artist, and she didn't like — hated — the show-biz

Nyro's fans worshiped her purism, and the tribute will be almost a cult happening. Patti LaBelle, one of Nyro's closest musician friends, will headline an evening also featuring Phoebe Snow, Sandra Bernhard, Cyndi Lauper and a homemade video of Nyro on Nyro, filmed in her final

"She was a soulful, fat mama, and I loved her," Ms. LaBelle said.

In her last 25 years, according to music-industry lore, Laura Nyro was a recluse who had metamorphosed from a sultry teen-ager into a plump earth mother who issued sporadic, fringe albums dotted with songs about animal, maternal and American Indian rights.

But she was reclusive only in the industry's view; she didn't play arenas or go on major tours or make music videos. Instead, flush with the money of her early success, she cobhled a quieter life for herself, in which she wrote what she wanted when she wanted, put out an album when it felt ready and performed in places where she felt accommodated, like the Bottom Line in New York.

The heart of Nyro's existence was domestic but not hermetic. She lived for 17 years with Maria Desiderio, a 43-year-old painter, who has equally thick, flowing dark hair. On a bucolic property in Danbury, Conn., complete with habbling brook and duckfilled pond, they raised Nyro's son, Gil Bianchini, who is now 19. Their house was spare and uncluttered, decorated with Isamu Noguchi paper lamps, a grand piano and hundreds of books (mostly by women). They cooked and hiked and traveled the country in a camper.

'The business of music was something that was never comfortable for Laura," Ms. Desiderio, a Brooklyn native, said. "She saw a lot of fake friendships and false emotions. But the husiness of life - Laura lived very fully. She was nothing like a

A close friend, Zoe Nicholson, portrayed the relationship between Ms. Desiderio and Nyro as a profound personal and artistic bond, "like Stein and Toklas, or Dali and his wife, or Kahlo and Diego Rivera." She also described a 1970's-vintage feminist spirituality that dwelled in their home. "Don't be worried about overemphasizing that Laura lived a woman-identified, goddess-driven existence," Ms. Nicholson said. "Everything was about female energy with the exception of her son."

Asked to elaborate, Ms. Nicholson said, "Mother earth, mother nature, looking to the moon."

YRO started out as a child of the macadam. A genuine, almost archetypal New Yorker, she grew up in a harely middle-class Italian-Jewish home across the street from Taft High School in the Bronx. She spent summers at the Catskill hotels where her father, then a trumpeter, had gigs with the hig hands. Her mother, Gilda, a bookkeeper with the American Psychoanalytic Association, gave her a highbrow cultural education at the city's museums and concert halls.

Nyro's sensitivity began young; she quit piano lessons at 8 because the stern teacher made her cry and Nyro subsequently had little formal training until she attended the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan. But she began writing songs at 8, too, pounding away at the family's Steinway grand piano.

By age 12, she practically slept with a keyboard. At 14, as a junior camp counselor, she turned colorwar songs into five-part harmonies. At 16, she sang doo-wop in subway stations and shut herself in her bedroom to listen to Mary Wells and to the Rooettes. And at 17, she sold her first song, "And When I Die," for a \$5,000 advance, to Peter, Paul and

A first album, "More Than a New Discovery" (1966), quickly followed, introducing the pattern of her career: songs that she did not want to tailor for release as singles were scooped up by other performers the Fifth Dimension, Barhra Streisand, Blood, Sweat and Tears - who made them hits.

"She never wanted to change a single note or a single word in her songs," her father said. "Early on, one arranger told ber that something she wrote was impossible musically, and she cried."

With a three-octave range of emotions and a confessional style, Nyro turned ber insides out in music that



A rising star in 1970, Laura Nyro would soon abandon her own fame.

was so many things at once: hubbly and soul-searching; commercial and experimental; jazzy and hluesy, with a touch of soul and doo-wop.

In 1968, David Geffen, then an aspiring agent, spotted all this in a tape of Nyro's supposedly disastrous performance at Monterey and signed her up. At her first hig-league audition, in a Beverly Hills hotel room before Clive Davis, then president of Columbia Records, Nyro felt so shy that she asked for the lights to be turned off and performed to the glow of a soundless television.

She got a \$4 million contract; she and Geffen mutually kick-started each other's careers. With her next alhums, "Eli and the Thirteenth Confession" and "New York Tendaberry," she made her mark on a generation of future songwriters, from Ricki Lee Jones and Suzanne Vega to Barry Manilow and Todd Runderen.

By then, she was living in a penthouse apartment near Central Park. harely an adult and awkwardly throwing work her father's way, recommending him as a piano timer to music-industry friends like Mr. Sedaka and Bette Midler.

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Within a few years, ber bond with Mr. Geffen had frayed, and when he formed Asylum Records, she stayed with Columbia, Ms. Desiderio said the relationship fell apart the same way others had and would. "She had a lot of difficulty with managers, who wanted her to be what she was not," she said. "She was not a musician for

At 24, Nyro retired, repulsed by the husiness end of the music business. ("Money, money, money/ I feel like . a pawn," she wrote in a later song.)

Because her songs, like their era, were dotted with drug references, Nyro was widely assumed to be a user, and many fans speculated that addiction had forced her into seclusion. By all accounts, however, while she experimented with drugs - cocaine and LSD, but oever heroin they played no larger role in her life.

Instead, she left the stage for love, marrying a carpenter, David Bianchini, and moving from her Manhattan penthouse to a cottage in a Massachusetts fishing town.

"It was totally predictable," said Ms. LaBelle, who met Nyro in 1971 when they recorded an album togeth. er. "She was not into material things"

SOUND LOGIC

BY CATHY MILLHAUSER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

or notoriety, and she had done the spotlight thing early on."

URING the early 1970's, Nyro spent many weekends at Ms LaBelle's Philadelphia home. "We'd eat and drink wine, and then lie on the floor. and I'd put my head on her chunky little body, and we'd just make up songs."

The 1970's were a decade of major life events for Nyro. She married and divorced. She had a child, Her mother, Gilda Nigro, in a sad foreshadowing, died of ovarian cancer at 49. And she quietly moved into a lesbian social world, meeting Ms. Desiderio in

Nyro went on and off the road and issued occasional albums, her voice richer than ever. She performed sporadically, and usually in places that granted her total control over her performance. She could not be persuaded to banter, for instance, or to sing Christmas music in her regular Christmas Eve show at the Bottom Line.

As she was undergoing treatment for cancer, Nyro oversaw the compilation of a two-disk greatest-hits alhum, "The Best of Laura Nyro: Stoned Soul Picnic," released just before her death. This involved arguing with Columbia Records over the tracks they chose, and the lineup, but it also allowed her to review the totality of her work in her final days. "There was much aggravation,"

Ms. Desiderlo said. "But by the end. she felt very full circle with her

In one of her final outings, Nyro traveled to the Beacon Theater to see Chaka Khan, whom she adored. Not long afterward, she asked her family to plant a Japanese maple outside her bedroom window, which was togrow as she faded. After Nyro died, Ms. Desiderio,

heartened hy an inundation of flowers and condolence letters, nonetheless withdrew into mourning.

His own calls unanswered, Mr. Nigro brought a bouquet of flowers to their home last Mother's Day, but the door went unanswered. Six months later, he finally spoke to Ms. Desiderio, but he hesitated to ask for. what he really wanted. "I don't want the whole urn," he

said, "but I do want just a few of Laura's ashes."

Brit Comic Takes on the U.S.

By DAVID EVERITT

OR the first time in his 20year career, the celebrated British comic Rowan Atkinson has a shot at American stardom. He is underwhelmed.

"I'm not very amhltious in the film world," be said, "which is probably indicated by the fact that I've done so little and the only bits I've done have been very small parts."

Mr. Atkinson is best known to American audiences for one of those small parts, the befuddled vicar who mangles the solemn marriage vows in the 1994 film "Four Weddings and a Funeral." (He also provided the impeccably fussy voice for Zazu, the hornbill courtier in "The Lion King.") It is as Mr. Bean, his signature television character, that Mr. Atkinson has finally been placed at the center of a film.

The television series "Mr. Bean," which features a contemporary sort of silent-movie clown who hlunders through everyday escapades with mime and slapstick, had its premiere in Britain in 1989. It has since attracted fans as far away as Myanmar, including something of a following in the United States through PBS hroadcasts.

The movie "Bean" has been released first overseas, where the character is better known, and has already earned \$100 million for Polygram Filmed Entertainment in countries ranging from Australia to Brazil. It was shown on the first night of the New York Comedy Film Festival last week and will open in American theaters on Nov. 7.

Shuffling stoop-shouldered into a meeting room at the Four Seasons Hotel in Manhattan recently, Mr. Atkinson certainly did not project the aura of a driven charismatic performer. Nor, sipping tea, did he convey any hint of the outrageous comedic personas that have made him a star in Britain and many other parts of the world.

Hardly an off-screen zany like Rohin Williams or Jim Carrey, the 42-year-old Mr. Atkinson seems downright bookish. His television character Black Adder, lesser known than Mr. Bean and highly verbal, skewers everyone in sight with a contemptuous wit, but the man behind this ultimate antihero speaks hesitantly. The nearly mute Mr. Bean careers through life on a wave of pure juvenile impulse, but the actor is deferential, somber.

"Ouite a nasty piece of work," Mr. Atkinson said of Mr. Bean. "Not the sort of person you'd want to have dinner with."



Rowan Atkinson

Bean utters only occasional words, in a harely intelligible croak. Although he is enough of a bedeviled loser to win sympathy, he is also a thoroughly self-involved creature. He cheats on college exams and runs other people's cars off the road. He even taunts hospital patients encased in body casts.

Only a performer as adept as Mr. Atkinson is with facial agility and loose-limbed body language could make the incorrigible Mr. Bean a pleasure to watch. And what Mr. Atkinson lacks in blind Hollywood amhition, he compensates for with what has been widely recognized as an unusual talent at both physical and verhal humor. Even though his exposure in the United States has been limited, he was still ranked No. 19 in Entertainment Weekly's recent survey of today's 50 greatest

ALENT, THOUGH, DOES not always assure success when comedy is exported across the Atlantic. The British stage comedies of Alan Ayckbourn haven't found much of an audience in the United States, and Neil Simon's plays have encountered a lukewarm reception in Britain. Mr. Atkinsoo himself ran aground in America when his 1986 stage revue, "Rowan Atkinson at the Atkinson."

had only a short stay on Broadway. Mr. Atkinson believes that "Bean" has a better chance of bounding across the trans-Atlantic hurdle. The character's nonverbal nature is one

factor. "There is always that age-old thing about England and America being divided by a common language," he said. "You think that because we speak English and you speak English that you're bound to understand and like everything that

we do. And of course you don't." Mr. Bean's appeal to both children and adults may be another asset. "Mr. Bean's core audience of enthuslasts is prohably children because he is a child at heart," Mr. Atkinson On television and on film, Mr. said. "But at the same time adults almost a sort of self-congratulation on the part of adults — that the thankfully have grown out of that awful kind of behavior of which Mr. Bean is capable, and they think, 'Thank God I'm not like that anymore." His other, intensely verbal com-

find him fairly absurd as well. It's

edies are more attuned to British sensibilities a set of concerns and attitudes that for Mr. Atkinson was cultivated by his distinctly English uphringing. As his reserved manner suggests, the comedian comes from a staid middle-class family. He characterized his fellow Atkinsons as 'decidedly not' funny.

The greatest fuel for his comedic impulses may have been his tony public-school education. "All the sort of absurdities and hypocrisies and almost Dickensian characters that you come across in that environment. I think, provided great inspiration," he said.

HIS INSPIRATION IS BEST seen in a sketch from Mr. Atkinson's 1986 stage revue in which he plays a headmaster who is meeting with a student's father. The haughty educator hlandly announces that the man's son has been beaten to death for taking out a book without a library card. The headmaster is considerably put out hy the whole thing. Referring to the boy, be says, "Quite frankly, Mr. Perkins, if he wasn't dead, I'd have him expelled."

Mr. Atkinson's education culmlnated with a degree from Oxford University in, of all things, electrical engineering. He also did some theatrical comedy at Oxford, and after college he moved on to stage revues and, eventually, television. "Black Adder" was Mr. Atkinson's first show to find its way to America, via A&E and PBS. That show ravages British history, from the days of Richard III to World War I. Through it all, various Black Adder descendants (all played by Mr. Atkinson) stab hacks in their quest for undeserved power and wealth.

The transition from television to film has been a slow one. Even after his performance in "Four Weddings and a Funeral," Mr. Atkinson was not besieged with film offers. At least not for roles he would have wanted. "Hollywood is quite famous for not knowing what to do with people." he said. "So even if you're good, to translate that into a performance in another film is unlikely, because traditionally, as you know, English actors play the butlers or psycho-

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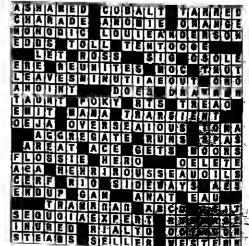
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Georgia on their mind

Aliya may be down compared to the early 1990s - but tens of thousands of immigrants are still making their way here from the former Soviet Union. Aryeh Dean Cohen met with one family and will be checking in with them as they build their

new lives in Israel

Tona Sepiashvili's almost constant smile chuldn't bide what was on her

THE JERUSALEM POST

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It's been four months since she, her husband Sergo, their son Misha, her mother Violeta, and her father Samson arrived on a rickety Orbi Airlines flight from Tbilisi, Georgia.

And while much of that time has been takeo up with the usual immigrants' steeplechase --looking for an apartment, visiting government offices, and checking out work possibilities - Nona and the rest of the family have been thinking ahout only one thing: Nona's 92-year-old grandmother Margot. Visa and

health problems forced the fam-

ily to leave her behind with

Nona's sister, and she died a fewweeks ago, before efforts to hring her here could bear fruit. Mention Margot in front of Violeta and she hreaks into tears. Eveo the discomfort of sharing the stuffy three rooms in her sister-in-law's third-floor walk-up in Or Yebnda couldn't compare with the pain of knowing her mother would now never come. With the help of some friends who raised the money for the trip, she was recently able to go back to Georgia to

her sister Liana. The problem, like many faced hy oew immigrants, was largely bureaucratic. There are no functioning archives of personal records in the now-independent Georgia, where working electricity is rare, at best. So it was practically impossible to obtain a copy of Margot's birth certifi-Without it, the family was unable to prove her Jewisbness which led to questions about

visit Margot's gravesite and see

The latter problem may be resolved with the help of an attidavit from Jewish Agency officials in Tbilisi, who would testify to the fact that they know the family and that they are all Jews. Her sister might come as a tourist, and for now she and her grandmother occupy most of Nona's thoughts.

As her aont (a relative of Nona's father) and mother. brought in endless arrays of fruit, pastry and other treats for their guests in the crowded living room, Nona, 27, explained the situation. "My sister couldn't come because we couldn't lcave my grandmother alone there. My sister has a child, hot no hushand, and they live in a run-dnwn rented apartment," she said in reasonably good

"My grandmnther knew all about Shabbat, etc. She said she wanted in die bere hnt that she didn't want to dic a non-Jew. Then my sister wrote that my grandmother was very sick. My mother didn't know ahout it. She got very upset."

It's a tribute to the family's steadfastness that they've already managed to accomplish what they have. Besides the problems with her grandmother, Nooa's mother has already been hospitalized once here with a heart condition, and Sergo'a grandmother was also sick, and he was off visiting her in Bat

Adding to their hurden is the fact that Nona's father, Samson, whose leathery features show signs of baving withstood a great deal of struggle in Georgia, has tuberculosis. "He's already been to Kupat Holim and is getting medicine,"Nona said, "but it's very hard for os to live together. He's sick, hut we can't afford to live separately.'

But his illness can't keep the 63-year-old Samson down. Eyeing a pregnant photographer in the room, he immediately tells her: "You've got a hoy there," which turned out to be correct. When be first heard about the situation involving Margo, the sickly Samsoo bravely declared: "I will go hring her here," hut he was quickly shouted down. Instead, he speeds most of his time playing with his five-year-old grandson, Misha, whom he chased into the kitchen.

Despite all the problems, there Violeta's and Nona's status as is optimism, best characterized hy the proud smiles when Nona discusses plans to change the



At home with the family, Nona Sepiashvili (second from left) tries to have a positive attitude. From left, her aunt Sima; her son Misha; her father Samson and her mother Violeta.

For dow, they're set to move to their apartment on Rehov

For oow, Nona, a nurse hy profession, and Sergo, 31 (also Hanadiv, where they will he known as Yosef), an economist, seven people sharing three are to start ulpan in Netanya. "I

Despite all the problems, there is optimisim, best characterized by the proud smiles when Nona discusses plans to change the family name

move into their apartment in

Netanya. Nona explains it would be best if they could afford two apartmeots, especially in light of her father's coodition, "but they always want six months' rent in advance, which we doo't have."

finally arrives.

At present, between the two families, they receive NIS 3,200 a month from the Ahsorption Ministry, which will just about cover the NIS 1,875 in rent, plus other expenses, until she and her husband find jobs.

profession," said Nona, who knows she will have to take supplementary cnurses to meet Israeli requirements to work here. Misha, meanwhile, started kindergarten in the fall.

ON THE night of their arrival.

Violeta, 61, grabbed a reporter's arm excitedly as they prepared to go up to the Ahsorption Ministry room to be processed, the prom. Now, Violeta insists she is still "very happy," hut moments later breaks into tears when her mother's name is men-

tioned. On that same night nf ber arrival, Nona was beaming, too, calling her arrival here the most exciting moment of her life.

"These problems aren't so bad - there was a war in Georgia, and it was very difficult there, she says, putting away the sheaf of papers concerning her grandmnther, which she always keeps nearby, "After all," she says, "I wanted very much, for a long time, to come here."

Nothing smells like a rose(nberg)

Not Page One

He sniffs armpits, inhales stinky breath, and if you're game - and gamy - he'll venture up your nose. Cheesy feet? Mel will take a snort, with pleasure.

These Prof. Roscoherg is a tad smelly him-"Sorry self. ahout that. I'm doing an experiment," says the rank mavee oo had breath and body odors. "I've been doing all kinds of experiments where I dnn't wear deodorant. I have

been, to a certain extent, smelly for weeks." Mind you, he does shower: "If I didn't, people around me would keel over." Mel, one of the world's experts on personal pungency, operates clinics that attract the raciest members of the human

race, a clientele anvone else

would sniff at. "We have bad-hreath clinics at Sprinzak in Tel Aviv and in London, and a body-odor clinic at the Marom Basel Medical Center in North Tel Aviv, probably the first place in the world you can take a bodyodor problem." (If you're on your way, please note: that is not the Basel Hotel. "Someomes patients go there by mistake saying 'Smell me! Smell me!' And they're told, sorry

sir, this is a hotel.") In most cases, Mel says, bad breath and body odor can be treated. He doesn't necessarily have to resort to his smell-andtell procedure, either. "Now there's a website on bad hreath where we give answers and reveal research. We've had about 9,000 'hits' so far - I get

school and told everyone I'd decided to do research on bad breath. They thought I was off

my rocker.
In 1983, we organized the First International Conference on Bad Breath - can you imag-

ine? - in Herzliya. We had 42 people from six countries. That got people interested years later, a second conference Belgium drew 140 people from 14 countries. We were voted the worst conference of the year to go to. Now we have an international so-

ciety based in Tel

Aviv with almost

100 members." From bad breath he branched out. "A few years ago, I started getting interested in body odor," he says, and you can see why. "There are differences, you know. Bad breath is just hasically had breath, but every person has a

unique body odor. Wherever I've traveled, I've noticed that people have the same sort of bad hreath. It's basically the same in all cultures, as it comes from gum disease, or off the back of the tongue, which I believe is the result of post-nasal drip. They're quite similar no matter what the culture or ethnic background."

There are, however, nuances. People who eat lots of garlic or onions, perhaps cahbage and broccoli, will exude a corresponding whiff together with basic halitosis. To that list he adds local specialties such as amba and hilbe (fenugreek).

Can Mel sniff someone and say, aha, he's a hilbe eater? "Yes. You can smell the hilbe from their armpits."

Mel has put a lot of thought into that most vexing of human

challenges: How to tell someone he smells bad

e-mail from all over the world, best as I can without actually smelling them."

(His e-mail address: melros @post.tau.ac.il; the web site: www.tau.ac.il/-melros /Welcome.html)

"The medical professions areo't skilled in smell, though 100 or 200 years ago a physician could make a lot of diagnostic decisions based on smell. Gynecologists still can. In China, it's customary to smell patients."

The Nosenberg rose - I mean, Rosenberg oose - has been places you could only dare imagine.

"Yeah, I'll admit, it's a bit woird what I do. My kids have a certain amhivalence to this discipline. But it's a very humorous thing. Sometimes I'll be sitting with my staff and we'll just crack up."
His interest in piquancy

piqued at an early age, when he was a lad in Ottawa. (They must be very proud of him.) "l used to like smelling babies' heads. I didn't think it was peculiar. I thought everyone likes smelling babies' heads. Anyway, I had an uncle who had terrible bad breath and I said, 'Uncle George, when I grow np I'm going to do research and I'm going to help your problem."

His interest evolved. "You don't go to university to learn this. You can't get a BA in Smell. (A BO, maybe.) It's a difficult area to study." He is, he points out, a microbiologist, not a doctor.

"I'd never given any thought to bad hreath, including my own. I even had bad breath and didn't know it. "I was at the dental school in

Tel Aviv in the early '80s and I said, hmm, bad breath, that's interesting. So I went to a library and saw there was hardly any research on it. I went bome and said to my wife: 'I've fallen on a gold mine. Here's a research subject that's mainly bacteria, and wow, everybody's interested in it hut nobody's doing any-

thiog about it. "I went back to the dental tell 'em."

He may be able to smell he doesn't claim to have superior olfactory senses. "What I have is an overriding curiosity about smells."

If there was any poetic justice, this Jew would have a shnozz to make an antisemite proud. Alas, it's an unohtrusive little thing, rising modestly from between soft brown eyes, just hig enough to perch

upon it professorial spectacles. When he's not performing diag-noses, he may be in the lah, a sort of olfactory factory. He has developed new ways to detect and treat body odors, and a technique for sampling

He helped invent a mouthwash, Assuta, which is now being launched in England. "It's unique, the only mouth-wash in the world you can actually see working in the sink, because when you spit it out you can see all the guck attached to the oil droplets." He has started up a company.

InnoScent, that puts out such products as a shoe spray he invented. His major project lately is to invent a safe deodorant.

"In Israel, most deodorants are antiperspirants - which contain aluminum salts. Aluminum is considered by many people to be harmful: been implicated in Alzheimer's and other diseases, and may cause cancer, though it's oot yet proven. We're in the development stage of an alternaove deodor-

Mel has put a lot of thought ioto that most vexing of human challenges: how to tell someone he smells bad.

"The answer is, it's almost. impossible. If it's someone in your family, you owe it to them, because no one else will tell them.

"Otherwise, if you're really brave you can maybe say something, and some people will appreciate it in the long run. Or you can drop hints, like leaving them a bottle of mouthwash, or deodorant.

"Or you can ask me, and I'll





NEWS

of the muse

Art imitates life

Jaffa's Created Theater Company has taken Penthesilea, by German playwright Heinrich V. Kleist, to International Theater Dialogue week in Aachen, Germany. CTC's founding artistic director Avishai Milstein translated the epic play into Hebrew because its conflicts, gender domination, and the issue of individual vs. the consensus mirror our own lives in Israel. CTC, which works actively for Jewish-Arab dialogue, is based in the old Alhambra movie theater, which the company is renovating. Milstein is also directing a workshop at the festival. The play had its world premiere on Thursday and will premiere at the Alhambra in December.

Also at the festival are two local monodramas, Pini Mittelman in Morning of Fools and Kafkaesque with Yehuda Almagor.

Dancing all the way to the podium

Four choreographers - Rina Schenfeld, Ido Tadmor, Noa Wertheim, and Uri Ivgi - are the recipients of the 1997 Ministry of Education Prize for dance. Schenfeld, founder and director of the Rina Schenfeld Dance Company, will receive the top prize of NIS 50,000 in recognision of her life achievement as a dancer and choreographer. Tadmor will receive two prizes – the NIS 15,000 Performance Prize and Young Artist of the Year. Wertheim, cocreator of the dance group Vertigo, and Ivgi, whose Open Wound will premiere at the Curtain Up dance festival next month, will receive second prize in this category. The ceremony will be held at the Suzanne Dellal Dance Center on November 5.

Pick of the crop at Tel Aviv's guitar festival

The 14th International Guitar Festival gets under way at the Einav Cultural Center in Tel Aviv from November 14 to 22. As always, the festival celebrates classical, Spanish, jazz, ethnic and pop guitar music. The classical players include Bosnian guitarist Denis Azabagic and Spanish fintist Eugenia Ferrer, the guitar duo of Carmen Ros and Miguel Ferrer, and our own Yoram Hasson playing his arrangements of Yemenite psalms. There's a salute to the great jazz guitarist George Benson with Meir Ben-Michael and his combo; a couple of local R&B combos, Daily Blues and Texas Flood in a program called Electrifying Blues; some flamenco with Israeli male flamenco dancer Ariel Eisenberg, the Black Velvet Quartet in Irish and Balkan, and lots more. Tickets range from NIS 45 to NIS 75 for a single performance, with 25% discount on a package of four or more, and different discounts for other deals.

Author! Author!

A troop of authors will march on stage at Authors House in Tel Aviv, November 2, recipients of the Moshe Bernstein Hebrew Literature Prizes. They include Gidi Nevo for his novel Ad Kan ("Only This Far"), poet Haviva Pedaya for Miteyvo Stuma, which the author has translated simply as "Poems," and to literary critic Menahem Ben for his article "Journeying to the Sources of the

Back-to-back Beethoven

Deutsche Grammophon has announced the release of the Complete Beethoven Edition - 87 discs in 20 volumes - ready for the company's centenary year in 1998. The series features old recordings from the company's vast catalog, as well as new ones covering the entire Beethoven output from his nine symphonies through the chamber works, songs and choral works. Among the musicians featured in this huge edition are Herbert von Karajan conducting both the Vienna and the Berlin philharmonic orchestras, pianist Daniel Barenboim, conductors Claudio Abbado, Lorin Maazel, Leonard Bernstein and John Eliot Gardiner, violinist Yebudi Menuhin, cellist Mischa Maisky, the Emerson String Michael Ajzenstadt able in local record stores.

Opera singer on a role

Israeli soprano Anat Efraty, who is spending her second year as a member of the Vienna Staatsoper, is currently with the company in China, performing the role of Barbarina in Mozart's Le nozze di Figaro. Upon her return, Efraty will prepare for her first major role with the company - Sophie in Der Rosenkavalier by Richard Michael Afzenstadt

Jerusalem violin ensemble tour de force

Les Violons du Roi David (Kinorot Hamelech David), the Jerusalem-based ensemble whose members play in the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, decided, after five years without a musical director, to engage conductor Anita Kamien. The ensemble has just returned from a short tour of France, playing concerts in Montpellier, Marseilles and Six-Fours under Kamien's baton. The program included works by Paul Ben-Haim, Mozart, Grieg,
Martin, Elgar, and Bartok.

Michael Ajzenstadt

MOVIE REVIEW

The ugliness of the kitchen-sink drama

By ADINA HOFFMAN

erhaps best appreciated as a Mike Leigh microcosm, Career Girls contains some the acclaimed English writer/director's best impulses alongside a few of his worst ones. The film evolves as a study in jarring contrasts, since what works in the course of the small, sometimes comic character-drama works wonderfully well, and what fails comes close to disaster.

The picture is simpler in its conception than some of Leigh's recent efforts and focuses on one weekend in the friendship of two very different 30-year-olds, Hannah (Katrin Cartlidge) and Annie (Lynda Steadman).

Roommates during college, they haven't seen each other in six years' time, and the film opens with their reunion as mellower, better-dressed adults.

Annie, a weak-voiced secretary, arrives on the train in London, where she's met by Hannah, who is tougher, more confident and also apparently a good deal angri-er than her fragile friend. While

CAREER GIRLS

Written and directed by Mike Leigh. Hebrew title: Yeladot Kariera. 91 minness. English dialogue, Hebrew subti-ties. Not recommended for children. With Katrin Cartildge, Lynda Steadman, Kate Byers and Mark

Annie still lives with her pareots, Hannah rents her own apartment in the city, works for a stationery firm and has spent much of her life hitterly caring for an alcoholic

By alternating between the ten-

tative, present-day exchanges between the women and flashbacks to their younger selves, Leigh manages to depict a bond of plansible density and complication. Although the film's two time frames seem a fairly straightforward device at first, they ultimately allow the director to convey with moving economy the intricate ups and downs and dynamic shifts of the friends' interactions over time. Both have changed a great

deal since they were students, and Leigh's script cleverly introduces us to the women as it reintroduces them to each other. Close as they once were, Hannah and Annie are now strangers in most respects and the movie's richest momeots take place as they cautiously attempt to pick up the thread of their longlost intimacy. Much of the emotional nuance here derives from his improvisational work with the actors and from the lively little starts and swerves of the characters' speech. In this case, each

Problems, though, also arise from this time-traveling premise, sioce Leigh appears to have

shape with the passage of years.

woman's sense of her language

and of herself takes surprising

thick line between their "then" and now" personae. Both Cartlidge (who appeared in Leigh's Naked and as Emily Watson's prim sister-in-law in Breaking the Waves) and Steadman (in her film debut) give powerful and often quite funny performances as the subdued career girls of the title.

Meanwhile, they play the uni-versity students in the broadest fashion possible, each basing her character on some obvious physical tic, a strategy which might be fine at an early stage in the character-development process but which, when captured in "finished" form on film, bestows on most of the flashback scenes the grotesquely mannered quality of

instructed the actors to draw a an acting-class exercise spun ont of cootrol. Cartlidge stomps around and growls most of her lines in hostile, nearly incomprehensible high-speed asides, as Steadman twitches, tucks her chin into her chest and blinks nonstop m a needy, bug-eyed way.

And to top all off, Leigh has

plagued this otherwise-attractive woman with a gruesome skin disease, and he frequently pushes his camera into tight close-up on these disfiguring scabs as if to rub our faces in her misery, Why? And wby make Annie and Hannah's other good school friend an overweight, disturbed young man (Mark Benton) with a terrible stut-

As is often the case with Leigh's

gruhby aesthetic, it is not at all clear what purpose is served by such deliberate flaunting of ugli-

Though the director would probably defend his choices as "hon-est" or "realistic," his eye falls only on reality's homeliest details. And in fact, he shapes his stories according to a much more stylized and sentimental set of rules than would someone whose main concem is true grit. (The ending of Career Girls, to take just ooe example; feels completely con-

trived.)
Still, for all its problems, there is something modest and likable about this film. Leigh's saving grace is his sense of humor which remains in wry place throughout.

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MEST SER E THE



Mark Benton stutters, Lynda Steadman twitches, tucks ber chin into her chest and blinks nonstop in a needy, bug-eyed way.

English theater abounds this week

By HELEN KAYE

east or famine. That's the way it is with local English theater, but starting today there's a couple of weeks with nothing but an English feast.

Tonight, Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream has the first of two performances at Ra'anana's Yad Lebanim. Directed by Maxine Ray, this Dream is a bilingual production featuring the Sharon Players (English) together with the Ra'anana Youth Theater and Theater Group (Hebrew).

I talk to Bottom in English and he answers me in Hebrew," says Gail Summers who plays Titania, "which sort of adds to the magic." Summers has also made the fairies' costumes "because we simply couldn't find anything. I've never made anything before. It's all been great fun. I love Shakespeare and

I've done this play twice before." The first four days of November

have five productions, starting with Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park from the Guild Theater, which "is a departure from what we usually do," cheerfully admits director/playwright Jodie Schenk. "But after Unadorned [about five women in a hospital during WWI], we were all so drained that we wanted something fun that we

could play with." The play shows how easily peo-ple can misunderstand what it is they really want," says Laurel Polansky, who plays Corie in Simon's early '70s comedy about a couple who have a falling out over their fifth floor walk-up apartment in New York.

"We're doing it kind of period," she adds. "I wear bell-bottom jeans." It's also at Yad Lebanim,

November 3 is opening night for the Jest (Jerusalem English Speaking Theater) production of Mrs. Klein by Nicholas Wright. The play, directed by Bruce Oppenheimer, is about child psychologist Melanie Klein and stars Dawn Nadel in the title role.

"It's a mother daughter-conflict," says Nadel, "and the dead son plays a dominant role in their lives. Melanie is a woman obsessed with her profession who often uses people without realizing it. She's a bit of a monster really, but with

tremendous charm. "I'm enjoying it immensely. And it's wonderful to be directed by a psychologist. He explains the baffling hits in the play and makes them work for us."

On November 4, the Tel Aviv Community Theater production of Jean Genet's The Maids opens at Yad Lebanim in Tel Aviv. Genet is

not your average amateur theater fare, director Kelly Hartog admits cheerfully, but audiences need an antidote to Neil Simon-type comedies every, once in a while.

"Genet takes real emotions, the kind we're taught to suppress very early," she says, "and confronts us with them head on. He can make even abuse sound poetic, but it hits

There's pleaty of abuse in this very black black comedy about a couple of maids who fantasize about the murder of their self-centered mistress. Hartog is an imaginative and meticulous director whose production of The Woman in Black won

raves in Ireland last spring.
The award-winning Charlestown Theater Group, a guest of the Israel-Ireland Friendship League, presents Brian Friel's Aristocrats in Yad Lebanim, Ra'anana, on November 5. The bittersweet com-

edy, like all Friel's plays, is set in the mythical village of Ballybeg. It tells the story of the O'Donnells, now the impoverished remnant of the family that was once the local aristocracy. All they have left is the mansion where they've all come for a family wedding - and a confrontation with the truth.

The group has been active since the 1930s and is still going strong. In 1991 it was national champion with its production of Sam Shepheard's Buried Child.

And this is how you see everything in one week, says Yanky Fachler, the energetic founding president of EADI (English Amateur Drama in Israel): A Midsummer Night's Dream on October 28; Barefoot in the Park on November 1; Mrs. Klein on November 3; The Maids on November 4; and The Aristocrats

SEE IT IN HEBREW-HEAR IT IN ENGLISH! MR. WOLF

November 4 4.8.30 p.m.

A Hiller Mittiepunkt-Isar Bonen Production Based An Monda by Ben Johnson Starring: Yoss Grave and Rami Baruch. Isaac Wolf, who made his millions from brothels in Germany, returns to israel after many years, accompanied by his taithful assistant, Bizzi, to

take his revenue on his three brothers for dispossessing him of his father's inheritance years ago.

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There's more to this business than the 'three tenors'

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The last time American tenor David Kuehler sang Alfredo in Verdi's La Traviata, in Amsterdam in 1993, he says be had to sing his hig aria "with fog on stage; and I had to lie down on my back, unseen by the audience. It was a pretty crazy productioo by Alfred Kirschner, with nude dancers for Flora's party. Some was quite interesting and I like Alfred a lot, but he definitely has his own ideas about opera." On other occasions Kuebler had to crawl on his stomach while singing in the opera Faust or to sing while climbing

mountains on the stage. But this time around there will be no such problems. Kuebler, who has sung in Israel several times in both concerts and opera productions, will sing Alfredo in concert form with the Haifa Symphony Orchestra later this week. No costumes, no make-up, oo scenery. Pure music. Can opera work in this way? "Of course. You concentrate on the music and you don't have the distraction of the staging. But there music."

is also a loss. It's a trade-off, as some dramatic aspects do get lost. Yet sometimes that concentration on the musical end of things can be most rewarding and

I enjoy it." Kuehler likes working with directors. "I never had a bad experience with a director. After all, it's their concept so you have to make an effort and do what they want."

Ten years ago Kuehler, his wife, and their two daughters returned to live in their native land after spending several years in Cologne, where the tenor was a member of the local opera com-

"It was very good for me to be a resideot artist because I was at home when my girls grew up." Now the daughters are older, one 22, the other still in high school. "The younger one likes Beethoven and plays the piano, while the older one is into a different kind of music. She does techno. She claims she knows what it is, but I don't. But she has very specific taste and knows the difference between good and bad



Tenor David Kuebler's diary is booked through 2002.

On the subject of good music, Kuebler is critical of the phenomenon of the three tenors (Placido Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti and Jose Carreras). "It gets tiresome. Don't get me wrong, though. Thank God we bave these three tenors, but there are other tenors who are more lyrical and less of

the show-off type. I know that to the public all other tenors are overshadowed by these three, hut this is not the case." Kuehler adds,
"I have many friends who are
tenors. Actually I don't remember meeting a tenor I didn't like. We are like members of a special club and we have a lot of respect for each other. I enjoy talking to other tenors very much."

Kuebler's diary already has solid bookings for 2002, but the repertoire he sings has changed from the lyric Mozart roles he used to do in the past.

"It was a logical step for me. Now I sing Alwa in Lulu and the title role io Zemlinsky's Der Zwerg. I'm glad I spent that time on the classical and Mozart repertoire which is technically very difficult, but now I feel vocally ready to make the move into a somewhat beavier and more dramatic repertoire, and I love it. Lulu is such a great opera."

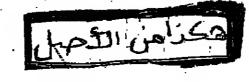
David Kuebler sings Alfredo in the Haifa Symphony Orchestra's season opening production of Verdi's La Traviata Octaber 29

Sinatra 'planned to marry' Monroe

ust weeks before her death in 1962, Frank Sinatra planned to marry Marilyn Monroe "in an effort to save her from herself," according to a new biography of the singer being serialized in London's Daily Mail.

In Sinatra: The Man Behind The Myth, author J. Randall Taraborrelli quotes an unidentified friend of Sinatra as saying, "No one will mess with her if she is Mrs. Frank Sinatra. No one would dare." The extract published last week says Sinatra and Monroe began an affair in 1954. He was separated from his second wife, Ava Gardner, and Monroe was divorced from baseball player Joe

DiMaggio, her second husband. They lived together, in a platonic relationship, the book says, until one morning when Sinatra found a naked Monroe choosing juice from the refrigerator. The book says the affair continued on andoff until Monroe's death of a drug-overdose. (AP)



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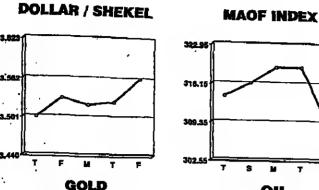
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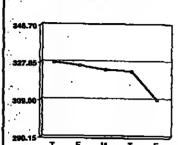
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Israel, PA set up joint industrialist committee

In an effort to increase joint ventures, Palestinian and Israeli industrialists announced plans yesterday to set up a committee that would meet regularly to discuss hurdles faced by joint business initiatives, said Yoram Blizovsky, managing director of the Manufacturers' Association.

The aim is for both sides to try and resolve the bureaucratic problems that Israeli and Palestinian companies face when trying Jennifer Friedlin to cooduct business together.

Industrial prod. expected to rise 3.5% in '97

Based on figures from the January to August period, industrial production is expected to grow this year by by between three percent and 3.5% compared to 1996, the Central Bureau of

Statistics said yesterday. Industrial production grew 5.4% in 1996 and increased at an average annual rate of 7%-2% between 1991 and 1995.

Proposed budget faces uphill battle

By DAN GERSTENFELD and LIAT COLLINS

MK Maxim Levi (Gesher) said yesterday he would try to convince fellow party and coalition members to vote against the proposed 1998 budget, which is scheduled for a first reading this

There is a list uf steps lacking io the budget proposal: fighting unemployment, [housing] for

young couples, assisting the col-lapsing health system and aiding development towns," he said.

The bill is expected to be debated through Wednesday afternoon. The budget proposal, including a NIS 2.3 million cut, was approved by the cabinet in September by a vote of 11-6 with one abstention.

Proposed cuts in spending for defense, education, welfare and housing, are intended to enable the

government to achieve a goal of keeping the 1998 budget deficit to no greater than 2.4% of the gross domestic product.

But a number of coalitioo members besides Gesher have criticized the cuts, incloding the National Religious Party, Yisrael Ba'aliya and Shas.

Yisrael Ba'aliya Whip Roman Bronfman said his party would oot support the budget unless mortgages and rental assistance stipends were updated.

We are convinced this would lead to a growth in the building industry which would serve as the springboard to general economic growth," Bronfman said.

Education Minister, Zevulun Hammer has said he had no doubt that the budget would be substandally altered by the Knesset.

He warned that the government wouldn't be able to win a majority for a proposed NIS 250 million

slash in education, as well as for other cuts envisaged in welfare

and health spending.
Interior Minister Eli Suissa, and Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai, of Shas, voted against the proposed budget in the cabinet.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon has invited some 100 leading industrialists to attend today's debate "to return some of the festive feeling to the budget discussions which bas been lost in recent years."

Stock litters in Tel Aviv

TASE traders shout sell orders as stocks on the Mishtanim Index slumped three percent yesterday in Tel Aviv's first day of trading since Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index plunged 10% last week. Full story, Page 10.

Big scorers rescue Tel Aviv art sales

Works

The annual Succot sales of Liebermann's little oil of his items, were withdrawn wheo bids failed to meet their minimal

As usual, it was the more desirable works that saved the day. Sotheby's total weot over \$2m., although 38 of the 12g lots weot unsold and five were withdrawo, among them several expensive Chagalls.

A Bomberg flower piece and a Kisting nude and portrait alsu failed to sell. Reuven Rubin's 1923 land-

scape of an Arab hamlet passed its best estimate at a well from 19: deserved \$172,000. Max \$21,700.

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Sotheby's and Christie's in Tel garden at Wannsee, 1924, went Zaritzky, Ludwig Blum, Lea ed \$57,500.

Aviv last weekeed saw about a at below its lowest estimate for Nikel and Michael Gross all Christie's Saturday evening third of lots going unsold while \$173,000. On the other hand, a rose above their estimates, the auction totaled \$1.44m. with 59 woman io a

Berlio cafe, 1929 or so, topped its best estimate at \$88,300; two other

works by this German-Jewish \$25,300. artist alsu sold well, his "Jeremiah" being purchased by the Berlin Jewish Museum. Felix Nussbaum's early "View

uf San Remo" more than doubled its estimate at \$44,850 while his charming port scene from 1936 fetched an expected

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record for this artist at AT THE AUCTIONS \$26,450. A Stematsky oil also set a record at

Stematsky, oil by Ardon managed its expect-

\$118,000.

went to a Chagall oil of lovers,

flowers and fruits, which made

its median estimate at \$184,000.

A poorly reodered marriage

exceeded its best estimate at

subject aside, could oot in any

way be compared with a fine lit-

for only \$14,000. However

Chrisoe's offered anuther, more

Moon, Ukraine," a semi-abstract

that topped its estimate at

Also topping their estimates at Chrisoe's were an Archipenku

bronze (\$77,300); a flower piece

drawing (\$48,300); and a Jankel Adler (\$46,000).

Making their estimates were an interesting Mokady full figure purtrain (\$41,000); an Ardon (\$43,700); a Lesser Ury street scene (\$63,000) and one of the

luveliest lots on sale, a silvery

Yosl Bergner still life from 1964 (a modest \$7, 130).

It's clear that in a sale where a

garish Kadishman acrylic sells

and a painting by Sam Francis

doesn't, that some strange

This painting, its trite Jewisb

On the other hand the fine head of a rabbi by Isidor Kaufmann squeaked past its lower estimate at \$131,200 and anuther, an anonymous portrait, didn't sell. But his "Lady at a Desk" topped its best estimate at \$48,300. Incredibly coough, two dreadful fantasy oils by Samuel Bak made their estimates at around \$18,000 and \$20,700.

An unexciting little abstract

Reading between the lines ... you have time for trading action



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Hong Kong braces for more market volatility

By BEDDY CHAN

HONG KONG ~ The Hong Kong Monetary Authority said it widened the band for its overnight interbank rate by 100 basis points in anticipation the rate will experience further volatility.
On Thursday Hoog Kong's

overnight interbank interest rate rose to as high as 300 percent amid speculation the Hong Kong dol-lar's peg to the US dollar could break. As Hong Kong interbank rates rise, local banks may prefer to borrow from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, which the de facto central bank doesn't want.

The widening of the liquidity adjustment facility - the band within which the overnight Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate should move - could mean the de facto central bank foresees further speculative attack on the Hong

Kong dollar peg.
"I think the Hoog Kong Monetary Authority wants to discourage banks" from using its liquidity adjustment facility, said Davy Kwan, chief treasurer at the International Bank of Asia.

The "LAF" is supposed to be the last resort for local banks to borrow in the market, said Rebecca Chan, a spokeswoman for the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.

Banks have increased their interest rates as a way to deter speculators from selling Hong Kong dollars on expectation the currency's peg to the US dollar will break, leading to a devaluation of the Hong Kong currency.
The HKMA is foll

decisioo on Friday by the Hong Kong Association of Banks to increase interest rates by 75 basis points, said Kwan.

The Hong Kong dollar will still scene from 1959 by Mane-Katz be trading on the strong side of the dollar peg," said David Li Kwokpo, chief executive of Bank of East Asia Ltd., the territory's third largest public bank.

Effective today, the bid and offer tle Mane Katz of a fluwer cart rates under the liquidity adjust-ment facility are 4% and 7%. The which failed to sell at Sotheby's band bad been between 4.25% and interesting Mane Katz, "Bloe

Because of the Hong Kong cur-rency's peg to the US dollar, with US\$1.0 officially valced at HK\$7.20, the Hoog Kong Monetary Authority takes reference from the US federal funds by Kisling (\$77,300); a nower piece by Kisling (\$77,300); an interior by Josef Israels (\$57,5000, more than duuble); a Picasso peo rate in adjusting the LAF.

The latest adjustment makes the midpoint of the band match the US federal funds rate at 5.5%. Previously, there was a 25-basis point difference. "The LAF rates and the width of the LAF corridor will be reviewed from time to time in the light of market conditions," the Hong Kong Monetary Authority added in a statement.

Since the inception of the band in June 1992, its width had been maintained at 200 basis points. It's now 300 basis points. Asian currency turmoil caused Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng Index to decline more than a third in the (Bloomberg)

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Receipt and supplier's details, including registered trader's number, can be faxed to 972-2-5378113. Transmission of fax can be confirmed by telephoning 972-2-5395226/428. Bids should be placed in the tenders box on 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem not later than 6 p.m. on January 13, 1998.

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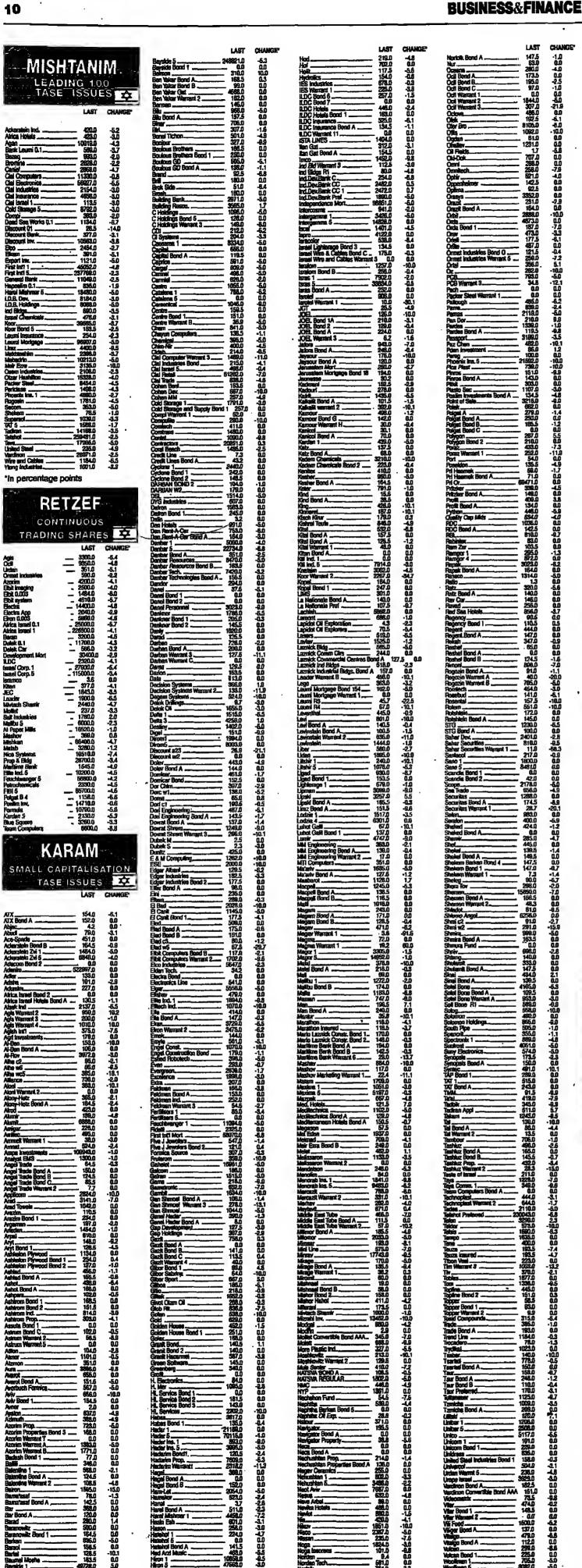
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TASE follows world markets' fall

Share prices closed sharply lower yesterday in the first Tel Aviv trading session since world markets went on the decline.

LAST

147.5 (\$3.0) 280.11 195.0 (\$7.3 (\$7.

"Basically it's looking very, very fragile," said Danielle Finn, head of sales at Ilanot Betucha. "There's a lot of nervousness in the market." The benchmark Mishtanim index of top shares fell 3.33 percent, or 10.34 points, to 299.82 on a high all-share turnover of 256 million shekels against 188 million shekels on Tuesday, the last day of trading before the Simchat Torah holiday. The Maof 25 blue chip index

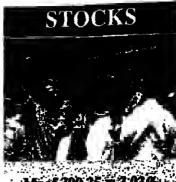
closed 3.03% lower at 309.35. The Retsef index of shares traded in the continuous trading plunged 4.26% to 103.15.

Doron Tsur, director of research at Sahar Securities, said the surge of sell orders was in response to the drop in share prices worldwide last week and in particular to the fall in technology shares on Wall Street on Friday.

Most Israeli high-tech stocks are traded in New York but many are held by TASE-traded companies.

"The decline is not surprising and we were expecting such a drop following the fall of world markets," said a trader at Bank

Investors are waiting now for



Maof 309.35 ¥ 3.03%

the opening of the Asian markets to decide how to act on Monday," In the Meretz session, sell orders

prior to the opening bell reached a huge 174 million shekels against virtually no buy orders, Tsur said. "The main fear of investors is that there will be some kind of for-

eign exchange crisis, in which case the market will be in trouble," said Finn. But, she stressed, Israel's fundamental economic situation was generally positive. Among the biggest losers among

top stocks were Clal Electronic Industries, down 5.5% to 56,927 Chemical Agan Manufacturers, down 4.25% to agorot, Discount Investment Corp. down 3.75% to

egorot and Pharmaceutical Industries, down 3.0% to 17,995 agorot.

It's d

Avi Fischer, executive director for institutional sales at Zannex Securities, said he believed the market remained fundamentally strong. But he said he expected that at best it would remain ner-

vous for the first part of the week.
"Wall Street will be trading jittery in the first half of the week... so we're going to see some choppy trading here," he said, adding that bargain-hunters might begin coming into the market as early as

The Bank of Israel is widely expected to cut interest rates today by about 0.3 percentage point from the current 13.4%. The announcement is expected after trading is

'We don't think the market will rally on the news, but it may stop. the tide," Fischer said.

The most active shares were Israel Chemicals, which fell 3.0% to 476 agorot on volume of 15 million shekels, Bank Leumi, which dropped 3.75% to 569 agorot on tumover of 13.9 million shekels and Koor Industries, which declined 3.75% to 39,565 on volume of 12.5 million shekels.

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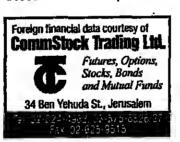
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Min ...

Italy raises \$11b. in Telecom Italia offering

Italy's Treasury closed the sale of its controlling stake in Telecom Italia SpA, the national telephone company, raising \$11.14 billion and making it the largest European secondary stock offering ever.

Tel Aviv shares data supplied by Pacific Mediterranean Investments, Tel. 09-958-5873. All other data supplied by Commstock Trading Ltd., Tel. 02-624-4963. Due to technical failures data may be inaccurate. The Jerusalem Post will not be held responsible for the consequences of any transaction made on the basis of these data. Readers who wish to report missing or misquoted data should do so on postcards only, addressed to Jerusalem Post Business



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The Treasury said individual investors, who requested 2.9 billion shares compared to the 1.45 billion shares being offered, will pay \$6.42 per share. Institutional investors will pay 11,200 lire per share, the Treasury said, Institutions asked for 800 million shares compared to the

280 million being offered. The sale was an enormous success among private investors," said Treasury and Budget Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi at a press confer-

The sale of the 45 percent stake in Telecom Italia is the latest in a wave

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign	currency de	posit rates) (3	1.9.97)
Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	4.875	5.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.250	5,375	5.750
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.875	2.375
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0,000	0.125	0,500
Yen (10 million yen)	· 		
(Rates very higher or	lower than ind	icated according t	o deposit)
		e Rates* (24.16	

	CHECK	SAND			
	TRANS	FERS	BANK	NOTES	Rep.
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rates**
başkışt	3,8020	3.8634			3.8300
r	3.5346	3.6916	3.47	3.65	3.5620
nerk	1.9874	2.0195	1.95	2.05	2.0031
eriing	5.7791	5.8724	6.68	5.96	5.8240
inc	0.5931	0.6087	0.58	0.62	0.5978
yert (100)	2.9078	2,9548	2.85	3.00	2.9305
in	1.7639	1.7924	1.73	1.82	1.7772
nc	2.3990	2.4377	2.35	2.48	2.4180
orone	0.4650	0.4725	0.45	0.48	0.4664
n krone	0.4945	0.5025	0.48	0.51	0.4984
one	0.6219	0.5304	0.51	0.54	0.5261
ark ·	0.6640	0.6748	0.65	0.69	0.6694
dollar ·	2.5425	2.5836	2.49	2.62	2.5623
dollar	2.4915	2.5317	244	2.57	2.6128
rand	0.7484	0.7605	0.67	0.77	0.7542
anc (10)	0.9638	0.9784	0.94	1.00	0.9716
chilling (10)	2.8241	2.8697	2.77	2.91	2.8461
(1000)	2.0353	2.0682	2.00	2.10	2.051B
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"These rates vary according to bank. "Bank of Israel.

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of state asset offerings in Europe as governments move to unload former industrial monopolies and open markets to competition. (Bloomberg)

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Currency (deposit f		NTHS	6 MONT		12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000	4.	750	4.875		5.250
Pound sterling (£100		250	5,376		5.750
German mark (DM 2		750	1.875		2.375
Swiss franc (SF 200,		000	0.125		0,500
Yen (10 million yen)		_			
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	TRANS	FEHS	BANK	NOTES	Rep.
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rates*
Currency hasket	3.8020	3.8634			3.8300

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	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rates**
Currency basket	3.8020	3.8634			3.8300
U.S. dollar	3.5346	3.6916	3.47	3.65	3.5620
German merk	1.9874	2.0195	1.95	2.05	2.0031
Pound sterling	5.7791	5.8724	6.68	5.96	5.8240
French franc	0.5931	0.6087	0.58	0.62	0.5978
Japanese yen (100)	2.9078	2.9548	2.85	3.00	2.9305
Dutch florin	1.7639	1.7924	1.73	1.82	1.7772
Swiss franc	2.3990	2.4377	2.35	2.48	2.4180
Swedish krone	0.4650	0.4725	0.45	0.48	0.4664
Norwegian krone	0.4945	0.5025	0.48	0.51	0.4984
Danish krone	0.6219	0.5304	0.51	0.54	0.5261
Finnish mark ·	0.6640	0.6748	0.65	0.69	0.6694
Canadian dollar	2.5425	2.5896	2.49	2.62	2.5623
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S. African rand	0.7484	0.7605	0.67	0.77	0.7542
Belgian franc (10)	0.9638	0.9784	0.94	1.00	0.9716
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8241	2.8697	2.77	2.91	2.8461
Italian Era (1000)	2.0353	2.0682	2.00	2.10	2.051B
Jordanian dinar	4.9747	5.0550	4.81	5.25	5.0046
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0900	1.00	1.09	1.1131
ECU .	3.9162	3.9814	_	_	3.9492
irish punt	5.1835	6.2670	5.09	5.35	5.2149
Spanish paseta (100)	2.3571	2.3952	2.31	2.43	2.3766

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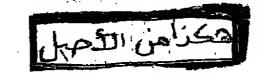
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It's down to the wire for Marlins, Tribe

0,563 agorot and harmaceutical industries los **17**.995 agorot Avi Fischer, executive disp Ave Fiscare. Caccurve dimpositional sales at Zane) accurates, said he believed to make remained fundament.

For he said he accurate the said he said h stong. But he said he expoand at best it would remain. ous for the first part of the and ous for the the party of the wall Street will be trading? say in the first half of the wed o we're going to see some the making here." he said, adding to

into the market as can. The Bank of Israel is but expected to cal intelest life. by chout 0.3 percentage points and is expected after make Two don't think the market w

tally on the Usy ? put it May ? the tide," Fischer sad. The most active shares a learning which fell to as 476 agore; on volume of 15 Best shekels: Bank Leum she 3.75% to 569 agons minover of 13.9 million de declined 3.75% to 29.565 mg.

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considered by the English Cricket Roard (ECB), it said.

England Test player Tufnell

Ogea pitches, hits Cleveland to Game 6 win; World Series even

MIAMI (AP) - One more their fans' frustration starting chance. about the time Willie Mays robbed For the Cleveland Indians to Vic Wertz in the 1954 Series. break their curse. For the Florida Marlins to write

a fantastic finish.

drive in a run.

The Indians forced a seesaw

Series to a final game, defeating

Florida 4-1 Saturday night when

Chad Ogea became the first Cleveland pitcher in 25 years to

Ogea, who had not gotten a hit

since high school, battled for a

two-run single early and later dou-

bled and scored. He lasted barely

beyond the fifth inning, but it was

enough to beat Kevin Brown for

lacked drama and been known

mostly for snow and sloppy play

has the ultimate - the first World

Series Game 7 since 1991, that

memorable night in the

Metrodome when Jack Morris nitched all 10 innings and led

Marlins manager Jim Leyland

was looking forward to Game 7.

"There's nothing wrong with that," he said. "In fact, that's prob-

A sensational play by shortstop

Omar Vizquel, strong work by the

bullpen and two sacrifice flies by

Manny Ramirez belped Cleveland

continue the teams' pattern of

we have a veteran team that seems to do well with our backs against

Al Leiter, hit hard in Game 3,

was slated to start last night for the

Marlins against 21-year-old rookie

For Cleveland, the final game of

the 1997 season marks one more

chance to overcome a legacy of

losing that spans nearly a half-cen-

tury. The Indians have not won the

World Series since 1948, with

"The biggest thing for us is that

Minnesota over Atlanta 1-0.

ably the way it should be."

alternating wins.

Jaret Wright

the wall," Ogea said.

Now, a week that has often

the second time in the Series.

itself.

"We've got a club that everybody had written off a long time ago, and perhaps rightfully so," For this World Series to redeem Hargrove said. These guys have a lot of heart." It all comes down to Game 7.

For Florida, the last game means an opportunity to a fast climb that has lasted only half a decade. The Marlins are trying to become the youngest franchise to win the World Series.

But the Indians have a stat in their favor - road teams are 17-15 in Game 7s.

Wearing their lucky blue jerseys for the first time in the postseason, the Indians did not wilt in the balmy conditions. It was 80°F with 85 percent burnidity at the start at Pro Player Stadium, a sharp contrast to frosty Jacobs Field, where the wind chill factors averaged 27°F for the middle three games. "I thought Cleveland played an

aimost perfect game," Leyland said. While the warm weather was not a surprise, the skill Ogea showed with the bat was a shock. He bad been 0-for-2 with two sacrifices during interleague play this year and went 0-for-2 with another bunt in Game 2. He had

drawn praise from Leyland, bow-

ever, for his poise at the plate. Ogea credited his father for teaching him how to bit, and he surely made his dad proud for what he did his first two times at bat, getting two bits against a pitcher who threw a no-hitter this season. "My father always taught me to hit to right field, so I tried to do that."

The game was scoreless in the secood inning when a leadoff single by Matt Williams, a walk to Jim Thome and a one-out walk to Marquis Grissom loaded the

Up stepped Ogea, forced to bat because the DH is oot used in NL



HITTING MACHINE - Indians pitcher Chad Ogea slides into second with a double, his second hit in Saturday's 4-1 win over the Marlins. Ogea became the first pitcher to have 2 hits and 2 RBIs in a World Series game since 1968.

healthy cuts and fouling off two lining a single to the right of first

Ogea took the next two pitches for balls, theo fouled off two parks. Ogea was not fazed by more. This had become an intrigu-Brown's hard sinkers, taking ing matchup and Ogea ended it by baseman Jeff Conine.

Ogea became the first Indians pitcher to drive in a run since Steve Dunning bornered on fly for a 4-0 lead. Ramirez a September 19, 1972, a year before had a sacrifice fly in the third.

the AL introduced the DH. In the fifth, Ogea grounded a double between Conine and the bag, and later scored on Ramirez's fly for a 4-0 lead. Ramirez also

Ogea, the first pitcher with two hits and two RBIs in a Series game since Detroit's Mickey Lolich in 1968, poured a couple of enpfuls of water over his head after scor"I was absolutely gassed," Ogea

Tired from his run around the bases, he gave up Florida's only ruo in the bottom half on singles by Moises Alou and Charles Johnson and a sacrifice fly by pinch-hitter Darren Daulton.

Ogea walked Gary Sheffield to start the sixth and was pulled in favor of Mike Jackson after allowing one run and four hits. The Martins out runners on second and third with two outs, but Vizquel who won his fifth consecutive Gold Glove this week - dived into the hole and made a rainbow throw that nipped Johnson to end the inning.

The only way to save it is to dive," Vizquel said. "I've done it before, but never in this big of a game. I knew that Charlie Johnson - a heavy guy - was running and that I had time to make the play."

Jackson escaped another jam by retiring Bobby Bonilla on a fly ball with the bases loaded to finish the seventh. Paul Assenmacher pitched the eighth and Jose Mesa worked the ninth for a save.

Because of Game 7, the NFL game in Miami between the Chicago Bears and Dolphins was moved from yesterday to tonight.

021 DIO 000-Florida 000 010 000—1 8 0 Ogea, M.Jackson (6), Assenmarber (8), Hesa (9) and S. Alomar, K. Brown, Elleredia (6), Powell (8), Yosherg (9) and C.Johnson. W—Ogea, 2-0, 1.—K. Brown, 0-2. Florida

> Saturday, Oct., 18: Florida 7, Cleveland 4 Sanday, Oct. 19: Cleveland 6, Florida 1 Tuesday, Oct. 21: Florida 14, Oeveland 11 Wednesday, Oct. 22: Cleveland 18, Florida 3 Thursday, Oct. 23: Florida B. Orveland 7 Saturday: Cleveland 4, Florida 1, series tied at 3-3 Last night: Cleveland (Wright 8-3) at Florida (Letter H-9)

SA set Pakistan modest victory target Wolverines win Michigan derby, stay unbeaten

FAISALABAD, Pakistan (Reuters) - Spinners Mushtaq Ahmed and Saqlain Mushtaq left Pakistan perfectly poised to win the third and deciding Test against South Africa yesterday.

They took seven wickets between them as the touring team were dismissed for 214 in their second innings, leaving Pakistan a modest victory target of 146.

They were four for no wicket when play was called off early on the third day because of bad light. South Africa, resuming at 21 for two after a delayed start, progressed

steadily to 63 before losing their Brian McMillan was caught at the wicket off Mushtaq for 21 as he pushed forward.

By lunch South Africa had moved on to 79 for three - 10 runs ahead. But the capture of five wickets in the afternoon session swung the match decisively Pakistan's way.

Off-spinner Saqlain began the slide by ending a fifth-wicket partnership of 43 between Pat Symcox and Hansie Cronie at 140. He trapped night-watchman

Symcox leg before for 55. Symcox, who made 83 in the first innings, hit seven fours and a six off

At the same total Cronje (21) was smartly caught by Azhar Mahmood, diving forward at square leg off Waqar Younis. Dave Richardson was leg before to the next delivery.

Lance Klusener denied Waqar a hat-trick and made a rapid 38 off 36 balls before falling Ibw to Saqlain in the last over before tea.

Klusener dominated an eighth wicket stand of 47 in 58 balls with Shaun Pollock who remained

unbeaten 21. The innings ended when Mushtaq

FOUR WICKET HAULIER - Mushtaq Ahmed took four South African wickets yesterday to leave hosts Pakistan requiring an easy victory target of just 146.

took a return catch from Paul Adams for his seventh wicket of the

Mushtaq finished with four for 57 from 22 overs and Saglain claimed

EAST LANSING (AP) - No. 5 Washington State (7-0, 5-0 Pac-10) score to lead host West Virginia (6-1, losing sneak to 13.

No. 15 Michigan State 23-7 Saturday. Michigan State's only points came on a fake field goal, when holder Bill Burke threw a 22-yard touchdown bass to Sedrick Irvin in the first quarter. Michigan still hasn't given up a

point in the fourth quarter this season. Brian Griese and Chris Howard ran for touchdowns as the Wolverines (7-0, 4-0 Big Tea) moved closer to a November 8 showdown against No. 2 Penn State. The Spartans (5-2, 2-2) lost their second in a row after opening the season with five straight wins.

While defense was the story at Spartan Stadium, there was a wild offensive show at Stillwater, Oklahoma, where Missouri handed No. 12 Oklahoma State its first loss. 51-50 in double overtime.

Corby Jones scored on a 15-yard run in the second overtime as Missouri recovered after blowing a 23-point lead. Jones' touchdown and the point-after kick by Scott Knickman gave Missouri (5-3, 3-2 Big 12) a 51-44 lead. Oklahoma State (6-1, 3-1) got within a point on a 6-yard keeper by Tony Lindsay, but he was stopped well short of the goal line on a 2-point try.

Jones tossed four touchdown passes and ran for two scores. Lindsay threw for four TDs and ran for one for Oklahoma State, which trailed 30-7 early in the second half. No. 9 Ohio St. 49

Northwestern 6 Joe Germaine threw three TD passes, including two to Dee Miller, as the host Buckeyes (7-1, 3-1 Big Ten) rolled over Northwestern (3-6, 1-4). (10) Washington St. 35

Arizona 34 (OT) Ryan Leaf's 1-yard TD dive gave

including two each by Charles Arizona (3-5, 1-4). After Leaf gave 2, 4-1). Woodson and Marcus Ray, to beat the Cougars a 35-28 lead, Arizona pulled within a point on Onege Jenkins' 6-yard TD pass to Rodney Williams. Arizona decided to go for a 2-point conversion and victory, but Jenkins was hit by two defenders

and fumbled. Leaf, the nation's top-rated passer, threw for a career-high 384 yards and three TDs. Jenkins threw for 246 yards and four scores, and also ran for a touchdown. (13) UCLA 35, California 17

Jim McElroy caught two TD pass-es from Cade McNown and ran for another score as host UCLA (6-2, 4-2 Pac-10) won its sixth in a row. McNown threw for 259 yards to become UCLA's career leader in passing yardage with 6,261. (14) Kansas St. 26 Oklahoma 7

Michael Bishop ran for one touchdown and passed for one as visiting Kansas State (6-1, 3-1 Big 12) beat Oklahoma (3-5, 1-3) for the fifth straight time.

(16) Georgia 23, Kentucky 13 Robert Edwards rushed for a career-high 186 yards, Ronald Bailey scored a defensive touchdown for the second week in a row and host Georgia (6-1, 4-1 SEC) shut down Kentucky quarterback Tim Couch.

(18) Iowa 62, Indiana 0 Randy Reiners ran for a touchdown and threw for two in his first start and Tim Dwight scored on a 92yard punt return as host Iowa (5-2, 2-2 Big Ten) broke a two-game losing streak by routing Indiana (1-7, 0-5).
(21) West Virginia 30

(19) Virginia Tech 17 Marc Bulger threw for one touchdown and ran for one and Amos Zereoue rushed for 153 yards and a

Michigan used six interceptions, the overtime home victory over 3-1 Big East) over Virginia Tech (5-

(20) Texas A&M 13 At Lubbock, Texas, Tony Rogers won it for Texas Tech (4-3, 3-1 Big 12) with a 47-yard field goal that his the left upright and went through

with 19 seconds left. Texas A&M (5-

2, 2-2) tied it 13-13 with 5:51 left on

a 24-yard TD pass from Branndon Stewart to Leroy Hodge.
(22) Purdue 48, Illinois 3

Billy Dicken threw for two touchdowns and ran for one as Purdue (6-1, 4-0 Big Ten) won its sixth straight game and extended hosts Illinois' **Bowling Green 20**

with five touchdown passes as visiting Toledo remained undefeated. Toledo (6-0, 5-0 Mid-American) trailed 20-14 late in the third quarter before Wallace gave the Rockets their first lead with a 49-yard TD pass to Dwayne Harris.

Alabama 29, (25) Mississippi 20 Curtis Alexander rushed for 143 yards, including a 56-yard touchdown in the third quarter, as visiting Alabama (4-3, 2-3 SEC) rallied to beat Mississippi (4-3, 2-3).

How the Top 25 fared

No. 1 Nebrasika (7-0) beat Kansas 35-0. Next vs. Okiahoma, Saturday 2. Penn Scate (6-0) did not play. Next: at Northwestern, Saturday.

3. Florrida State (7-0) beat Virginia 47-21. Next: vs. North Carolina State, Saturday.

4. North Carolina (7-0) did not play. Next: at Georgia Tech, Oct. 30.

5. Michigam (7-0) beat (15) Michigan State 23-7. Next: vs. Minnesota, Saturday.

6. Florrida (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. (16) Georgia, Saturday.

7. Washington (6-1) beat Oregon State 45-17. Next: vs. Southern Cal, Saturday.

8. Termineson (6-1) beat Micros Micros Micros Micros Saturday. 7. Washington (6-1) beat Orgon State 45-17. Next: vs. Southern Lal, Saturday.

8. Tennessee (5-1) did not play. Next: vs. South Cardina, Saturday.

9. Ohio State (7-1) beat Northwestern 49-6. Next: at (15) Hichigan State, Saturday.

10. Washington State (7-0) beat Arizona 35-34, OT, Next: at (23) Arizona State, Saturday.

11. Aubuurn (7-1) beat Arkansas 26-21. Next: vs. Hississippi State, Saturday.

12. Oklahoona State (6-1) lost to Hissouri 51-50, 20T, Next: at (20) Texas A&M, Saturday.

13. UCLA (6-2) beat California 35-17. Next: at Stanford, Saturday.

14. Kansass State (6-1) beat Oklahoona 26-7. Next: at Fexas Tech, Saturday.

15. Michigrap State (5-7) beat to Ho. 5 Michigan 22-7. Next: at Pexas Verb. Saturday. 15. Michigan State (5-2) lost to No. 5 Michigan 23-7. Next: vs. (9) Ohio State, Saturday. Michigan Scatte (3-4) lost to No. 5 Pricingan 25-1. Rest: vs. (9) Unio State, Saturday.
 Georgia (6-1) beat Inntacky 23-13. Nest: at (6) Harida, Saturday.
 LSU (5-2) did not play. Nest: at Kentucky, Saturday.
 lowa (5-2) beat Indiana 62-0. Nest: vs. (22) Pardue, Saturday.
 Virginia Tecch (5-2) lost to (21) West Virginia 30-17. Nest: vs. Alabama-Birmingham, Satu.
 Texass AlkM (5-2) lost to Texas lech 16-13. Nest: vs. (12) Oldaboma State, Saturday.
 Michigan State, Saturday. 21. West Virginia (6-1) beat (19) Virginia Tech 30-17. Next: vs. (12) Containenta State, Saturday.

22. Purdue (6-1) beat (18)nois 48-3. Next: at (18) lova, Saturday.

23. Arizona State (5-2) did not play. Next: vs. (10) Washington State.

24. Toleclo (7-0) beat Bouling Green 35-20. Next: vs. Aliansi, Ohio, Saturday.

25. Mississippi (4-3) lost to Mahama 29-20. Next: vs. Arkansas, Nov. 6.

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English cricketers may face tougher drugs tests

LONDON (Reuters) - England cricket chiefs may introduce tougher out-of-competition drug tests after this week's doping case involving left-arm spinner Phil Tufnell, a British newspaper reported yesterday.

The Sunday Telegraph said cricketers could face the prospect of being tested randomly at their homes and not just after matches. The move is one of several being

received an 18-month suspended ban from the ECB on Friday after admitting to failing to take a drugs

"Extended testing is something we're looking at," ECB chief execufive Tim Lamb told the newspaper. "We're convinced there is no drug problem in cricket but we must make sure we are not complacent."

Bruins' win streak snapped at six BOSTON (AP) ~ Bill Lindsay Tomas Sandstrom, Dmitri on the power play. The loss ended

broke a tie late in the third period to lead the Florida Panthers to a 5-4 win over Boston on Saturday. ending the Bruins' undefeated streak at six games.

Ray Sheppard scored twice for the Panthers, his first two goals of the season, to run his career total to 306 in his 11th NHL season.

Boston's Sergei Samsonov, a first-round choice in this year's draft, scored his first NHL goal 46 seconds in the third period and Tim Taylor followed with a goal at 2:42 to give the Bruins a 4-3 lead. But Sheppard batted the puck between Boston goaltender Jim Carey's pads to tie the game at 5:50, and Lindsay got the game-

winner at 14:04. Mighty Ducks 4, Islanders 2 Teemu Selanne scored the game-winning goal on a secondperiod breakaway and Mikhail Sbralenkov made 37 saves as the Anaheim Mighty Ducks won on

Mironov Scott Young also scored for the Ducks, who evened their record at 4-4-2. Bryan Berard and Robert Reichel scored for NY.

Canadiens 4, Senators 2 Martin Rucinsky scored two goals as Montreal handed the Senators their first home defeat of the season and first in 10 games going back to last season.

Dave Manson and David Wilkie also scored for the Canadiens. Alexei Yashin and Daniel Alfredsson scored for Ottawa, which attracted its second sellout

crowd, 18,500, this season. Sharks 4, Devils 3 Todd Gill, Owen Nolan and Tony Granato scored in a span of 2:33 late in the first period to spark San Jose to an away win Jeff Friesen also scored for the Sharks, who ended a four-game losing streak.

Scott Neidermayer scored twice

and Randy McKay added a goal as

New Jersey scored all three times

the Devils' two-game winning streak as New Jersey suffered its first home loss in five games at the Continental Airlines Arena. Maple Leafs 4, Flames 3

Toronto captain Mats Sundin scored a goal and assisted on two others in leading the Maple Leafs to their first home win of the season. Mike Iohnson, Sergei Berezin and Derek King, with his first goal

in a Toronto uniform, also scored for the Maple Leafs. Joel Bouchard, Jonas Hoglund and Cory Stillman scored for

Stars 3, Avalanche 1 Pat Verbeek and Mike Modano scored third-period goals as host Dallas handed goaltender Patrick Roy his first loss of the season.

Saturday's results: Anahem 4, HT Islanders 2; Florida 5, Boston 4; Montreal 4, Ottawa 2; San Jose 4. New Jersey 3; Toronto 4, Calgary 3; Dallas 3, Colorado I; St. Louis 5, Washington 2; Pinsburgh 3, Vancouver 2 (OT).

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Vancouver

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SPORTS

in brief

Korda ends long wait for victory

STUTTGART (Reuters) - Petr Korda claimed his first title in nearly two years with straight sets win over Richard Krajicek at the Stuttgart Open yesterday.

Korda's tidy 7-6 6-2 6-4 victory over the 1996 Wimbledon cham-

pion gave the 29-year-old Czech double reason for celebration. Not only did the win give him his first title since January 1996 in Doha but it also moved him back into the top 10 of the world rankings for the first time since August 1993.

Gascoigne staying with Rangers

LONDON (Reuters) - Paul Gascoigne looks set to stay with Glasgow Rangers, ending rumors that he might return to England with Aston Villa.

The international midfielder was at Highbury yesterday and saw Villa draw 0-0 with Arsenal but explained he was there as part of a birthday treat for his son.

Gascoigne told Sky Sports: "I've signed a three-year contract with Rangers. I'm very happy where I am."

Villa hold Arsenal goalless

failed to get the win they needed to go back on top of the English pre-mier league yesterday as Aston Villa secured a 0-0 draw that eases the mounting pressure on under-fire manager Brian Little.

Manchester United, 7-0 winners over Barnsley on Saturday. Villa remain a disappointing 13th after 12

Villa, without the suspended Stan Collymore and with Steve Staumton and Savo Milosevic away on international duty, gave it their all but were unable to get the three points they so badly need on the ground where their last league championship was

Villa pressed in the final five minutes but Arsenal held on for a share

Earlier, Bolton moved off the bottom with a 1-0 win over Rund Gullir's fourth-placed Chelsea.

The win, only Bolton's second of the season and their first at home, moves them up to 17th, above basement side Barnsley, Sheffield Wednesday and Southampton.

Division one result: Queens Park

Villeneuve wins Formula 1 title

JEREZ, Spain (Reuters) - Jacques Villeneuve landed his first world drivers' championship amid controversy yesterday when he survived a collision with title rival Michael Schumacher in their European Grand Prix showdown.

Finland's Mika Hakkinen won the race for McLaren ahead of his British team mate David Coulthard, but Villeneuve finished third to take the title by three points from Schumacher.

Canada's Villeneuve, son of Ferrari legend Gilles Villeneuve who was killed in qualifying for the 1982 Belgian Grand Prix, became the first driver to win the American Indy Car series and then the Formula One championship.

Schumacher, who did not finish. and Villeneuve were called to face stewards after the race following a 48th lap incident in which a rash move by the German cost him the championship.

However, the race stewards decided not to take action, saying in a statement they had "unanimously concluded it was a racing accident and no further action is necessary." Williams driver Villeneuve was

when he attempted to pass him on the 48th lap of the 69-lap contest. As he plunged and late-braked on the inside at the tight righ-hand Expo 92 comer at the Jerez track, he managed to force his car into the lead for

running second just three-tenths of a

second behind Schumacher's Ferrari

But Schumacher, reacting late, appeared to turn deliberately to the right and into Villeneuve's car, causing a high-speed collision.

the first time, except for the laps dur-

The incident echoed that in Adelaide in the 1994 Australian



CHAMPAGNE MOMENT - Jacques Villeneuve sprays the crowd with bubbly from the podium. (Renders) Grand Prix, when Schumacher -He stayed in front before easing

then also defending a one-point lead in the title race - collided with Briton Damon Hill's Williams and won the Coulthard to pass him and take first and second places. title in the most acrimonious circum-Then, both cars were damaged and

taken out of the race, but this time only Schumacher's Ferrari was unable to continue. His right front wheel rammed into the left sidepod on Villeneuve's car and then bounced away into a gravel trap.

Schumacher was unable to recover and Villeneuve, despite fearing his car had suffered serious damage to its suspension, managed to survive. recover his poise and drive on in the off on the final lap, allowing the McLarens of Hakkinen and a little bit surprised.

Hakkinen claimed his first Grand Prix win at the 96th attempt as he came home 1.654 seconds ahead of Coulthard, who in turn was only one-tenth of a second clear of Villeneuve.

"Either Michael had his eyes closed or his hands slipped on the steering wheel," said Villeneuve of the incident on lap 48.

Winning the championship is really just fantastic and this was a tough, physical race. I thought I had a chance to pass him, but I was quite

a long way back and I think he was "It was not even 50-50 when I

made the move. Michael hit me really hard and I thought my car was broken. I knew Michael was capable of taking me off and he tried to do so. But I had decided it was better to finish in the gravel than to finish second so that is why I went for it.

"It has been such an up and down year but in the end we have got the job done. I am really pleased for the team, for everyone and, of course, for Canada," added Villeneuve.

For Schumacher and Ferrari, it meant a nightmare end to their dreams of securing a first drivers' title after 18 years.

Maccabi pounds Hap. J'lem

By ELI GRONER

Maccabi Tel Aviv passed perhans its biggest test of the season beating Hapoel Jerusalem 78-65 in Maha last night. The win propelled the undefeated Tel Avivians into first place in the league standings.

Rebounding was the key for the defending champions. Not only did Maccabi outplay Hapoel 39-19 in rebounds, they also pulled down as many boards under Hapoel's has ket as the Jerusalemites did (15 offensive vs. 15 defensive rebounds).

Maccabi coach Vinko Jelovac said after the game that "defense was the key" and unlike in EuroLeague action, they clamped down and played stronger, more intense defense in the second half. Unusually, Jelovac's triumvirate of guards - Doron Sheffer, Derrick Sharp and Oded Katash - all played well in the same game. Sheffer and Sharp played strong all-round, while Katash - who apparently took recent criticism of selfish play to heart - led all scorers with 24 without forcing the action too much. The threesome totally dominated their opponents.

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Hangel's backcourt was ineffective; H Waldman, Adi Gordon and Doron Shefa combined for only 24 points and didn't provide the hosts with a serious outside threat. enabling Maccabi's defense to col-lapse inside on Radisav Curcic.

Other results last night: Kiryat Motzkin 92, Maccabi Netanya 90 (OT); Galil Elyon 84, Bnei Herzliya 81; Maccabi Rishon 96, Maccabi Ra'anana 80; Hapoel Eilat 93, Hapoel Holon 83 and Givat Shime 95, Maccabi Ramat Gan 86.

National Basketball League

Maccabi Tal Aviv ... Givat Shmuel 2 Hapoel Jerusalem . . 2

NFL

day's, early games: Balfimore agton 17; New York Giants mai 21; Philadelphia 13, Dallas

Sports Editors: Joe Hoffman & On Lewis

LONDON (Reuters) - Arsenal clinched 16 years ago. Arsenal were reduced to 10 men in

Arsene Wenger's men stay in second place a point behind leaders

the 82nd minute when French star Emmanuel Petit was sent off after the Frenchman had pushed the referee while remonstrating with him over a booking for Steve Bould.

Rangers 2, Manchester City 0.

Bransky, Swerdlow crowned lawn bowls singles champions Local rugby season begins

By JOEL GORDIN The local rugby season started on the wrong foot at the weekend when only three of the four scheduled

games were played. Tel Aviv B withdrew from their game against Kibbutz Yizre'el because, according to a team spokesperson, they had not managed to put together a XV "so soon In the third game, ASA Jerusalem after the holidays."

In the main game at Tel Aviv's Sporiek Tel Aviv A trounced Ra'anana 21-7. The Tel Aviv forwards, led by captain Mark Goldin, were too strong for their opponents.

Ra'anana are now without veteran captain and fly-half Johnny Saacks who is currently studying at Oxford year.

University where he has been selected as one of 30 players who may play for the university's team.

In the Sportek curtain-raiser, last ear's wooden spoon side, Rishon Lezion, supplied the surprise of the afternoon by drawing 10-10 with last year's league winners, Hapoel Netanya. Rishon led 10-0 at halftime and were unlucky not to win.

thrashed Hapoel Galil Elyon 39-0. Tomorrow, an army squad will play Hapoel Galil Elyon At Kiryat Shmona Municipal Stadium in a match honoring the memory of Uri Azulai, a Galil player who was killed in action in Lebanon last

By NORMAN SPIRO

Cecil Bransky and Merle Swerdlow took the top honors in the annual national lawn bowls championships when they won the coveted singles titles at the Ramat Gan club on Saturday.

Bransky beat Haifa's Chaim Shefer 21-18 in a keenly contested game, where Shefer kept naggingly close and drew level at 18-all. In the following last head, Bransky with his last bowl, brilliantly drove the jack to the ditch, simultaneously moving Shefer's lying bowl to the ditch for a three-count and game.

The men's pairs final saw Israel's top stars in action. Jeff Rabkin with Kallie Saacks at lead was up against Bransky skipping for 19-year-old Roy Jennings.

With Jennings giving excellent support, Bransky kept ahead throughout, and only a desperate superb trail of the jack by Rabkin in the 19th head, in rapidly fading light, turned a four-down count to two shots for Rabkin, to close the gap to 20-19 and stay in the game. In the final two ends completed the next morn-

ing, Bransky and Jennings settled the issue for a 23-19 win. In an all Ra'anana men's fours final, Gordon

Silberstein with Len Averbuch, Joe Goldberg and Ivan Kantor won for a second successive time when they beat Zachi Eckstein, Gerald Sacks, David Trappler and Zvi Bekier 23-14. The triples crown was won by Jeff Rabkin, skip-

ping for his father, Harold, and Jeff Milstein against the Haifa trio of Shefer, Yossi Greenberg and Yair Lieberthal (25-7). Merle Swerdlow added her first singles title to

two previous Masters wins when she beat her Ra'anana club-mate Arlene Rubin 21-13. Joyce Geller (Netanya) repeated her 1992 pairs success when she skipped Dolores Lille to win 23-11 against Pnina Gelbgisser and Ziva Iron

(Savyon). Recently-arrived Lille showed her worth as a

former Durban Circle Club medal winner and Natal provincial bowler. In the women's all-Ra'anana fours final, Molly

Skudowitz a three times runner up in the 80s won her first fours title skipping for Sadie Band, Florrie Cohen and Natalie Goldsmith. An all-round team effort saw Skudowitz's side come through to win 24-17 against Arlene Rubin, Hadassah Fisher, Denny Galland and Sylvia Machet.

Maureen Hirschowitz, Merle Swerdlow and Isobel Myers, Israel's international trio, outplayed the Kiryat Ono side of Maya Van Creveld, Miriam Cohen and Esti Yogev to the tune of 23-5, for the

In the women's novices competition, Lorraine Couzin (Ramat Hasharon) beat Shula Sadeh 21-18, while in the men's novices, Haviv Takin (Savyon) beat Simcha Sadeh 21-14.

In the men's seniors (over-65) Ra'anana's Julius Nickle came through in the last two heads to win 21-18 against Haifa's Chaim Katz.

Deriver 23, Buffalo 20, OT; Kausus City 28, S Louis 20; San Francisco 23, New Orleans 0.

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14:00 Gillette Sports

14:30 Deep Water

15:00 Animal Show

16:15 French programs

18:00 News in French 18:30 News headlines

19:00 Murphy Brown 19:30 Sabylon 5 20:10 Highlander 21:00 News in English 21:35 ER

MIDDLE EAST TV

22:15 Homicide

7:00 TV Shop

15:30 Ocean Girl

The Jerusalem Post Monday, October 27, 1997

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Jerusalem is a hybrid of liturgical traditions.

The numerous churches and monasteries in the

city and its vicinity regularly showcase some of

the finest choral singing around, even if usually on a noncommercial basis and only as part of the

liturgy. Some of these choirs have been recorded

and can be enjoyed on the superb Musica Sancta

five-disc series. Now you can enjoy them live in

a special dual program presented at the Zionist

Confederation House in Jerusalem. Tonight (8)

there is a lecture demonstration about the limingi-

cal traditions of this region, which serves as an

introduction to the actual concert and takes place

at the same locale Thursday (9). Among the par-

ticipants are the Armenian choir of Jerusalem, the

St. John's Mooastery Choir, and Ensemble

LECTURE

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Museum Jerusalem opens a five-lec-

ture series entitled From Shamanism to Kurosawa,

the Japanese Performing Arts: Roots, Modes of

Expression and Interrelationships. Dr. Zvika

Serper's topic, tonight (8), is "The Gateless Gate:

The Cultural, Philosophical and Ritualistic Roots of

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

Premiering tonight is the new season of Dudur

Topaz's incredibly popular entertainment show,

Entertainment First, at 8:30 on Channel 2. Topaz

broke world records last year when he reached over

50 percent viewer ratings. This season's show will

continue in its previous format, with new feature

spots. One will be the search for the country's most

eligible bachelor, now that Topaz is married, In

another segment, Topaz will mediate in minor dis-

putes that cannot be brought to court, and be will

host a nationwide youth competition for the best

Also airing tonight, immediately after

video promotion for Israel's 50th birthday.

ACROSS

1 Barber's reduced charge?

(3-5) 5 Compel me to include this

10 is it wrong for him to be unhappy? (9,6) 11 The said container father

12 Gareth not taking the

13 Deliberate swindle by

partisan (8)
15 Many a seagull from
Scotland flying round the

parrot (5)
18 Bill has a set of exam

questions (5)
20 Associate employee gets
behind the firm (2-6)

trouble to come down with

had in the capital (7)

ome flowers (7)

device above the curtains

Musica Eterna

the Japanese Arts."

CRITICS' CHOICE

Dudu Topaz is back for the new season of

Entertainment First, is Dan Margalit's new show

On the Table, at 10. A current-affairs talk show, it

features a team of regular guests and weekly seg-

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

*** THE PEACEMAKER - In its

unabashedly formulaic and commercial way, this

first film by the DreamWorks studio is an entertain-

ing bit of pseudo-realistic escapism. The movie

stars George Clooney and Nicole Kidman as an

intelligence officer in the US Army's Special

Forces and a White House nuclear expert, respec-

tively, hot on the trail of a batch of stolen nuclear

warheads being smuggled through Eastern Europe

toward some unknown terrorist target. Directed by

Mimi Leder, who got her start behind the camera on

ER, the picture blends action and emotion in care-

ful measure and with more than a few tricks bor-

rowed from that successful TV show. To her credit.

Leder seems more interested in continuous motion

than she does in violence per se. The movie has its

fair share of high-speed car chases, sudden shoot-

outs and late-night train hijackings, although for the

most part she prefers to steer our gaze away from

the really grizzly stuff and cut to what matters on a

narrative level. With the Romanian actor Marcel

Iures as a surprisingly human bad guy. (English dia-logue with some Russian and Serbo-Croatian,

Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted

6 Mince pie has little weight according to the saying (7)

7 Miraculoue food mother

8 Reject request to reduce

9 Bushes in a straight line on the boundary? (8)

14'e first cut up Art Deco

16 Gloomy supporters do this when their team is lese

17 Tooth in a wheel—put pair in hollow receptacle (8)

19 Coco ran wild, the beast (7)

22 New diet Edward prepared

24 It's ornate, just imagine (5)

25 Back at sea, it's grim (5)

SOLUTIONS

RAAC PIGEON
ASLONGAS A E V
P G C N STORIUES
TEACH U H D R
O R O TOULERABLE
REVERSED T A
E E D IMPAIR
S SAY ACE D
STRESS A D II
A T PATIENTS
GLISTENED C F H
W I R O ADAGE
RANGOON N T N R
E H I DIRECTOR
STATED G D Y

Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Horror, 4 Scope, 8

Rigid, 9 Largest, 10 Silence, 11

Yen, 21 Sort, 23 Observe, 25 Edifice,

DOWN: 1 Harass, 2 Regalia, 3

Ordinary, 4 Sure, 6 Ocean, 9 Extend, 7 Alien, 13 Passport, 16

Perfect, 17 Asteep, 13 Novel, 20 Debate, 22 Baise, 24 Rice.

26 Opera, 27 Piece, 28 Statue.

on, 12 Nip, 14 Fair, 15 Alps, 18

gives girl getting up (5)

the volume (4,4)

wallpaper (8)

successful (9)

21 Slattern's toy? (7)

without an adult.)

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

23 Policeman at workplace encounters little resistance

25 Used rag haphazardly that

27 Despite being difficult is having a go (6) 28 Finish in the finish shut in

DOWN

2 Squad going after a job for the working party (4-5)

3 Rose-red letters arranged

4 Be getting in something to

1 Acquire pass (4,2)

on the screen (7)

chew cut up (5)

sweet substance (7)

26 Royal Oak? (4,2,3,6)

had been coated with a

ments with satirist Shalom Assayag.

Entertainment First.

Maccabi pounds Hap. J'len 78-65

By ELI GROKER

Maccabi Tel Aviv passed per secondary in higgest test of the season by Hapoel Jerusalem 78-66 is he inst night. The win propelly undefeated Tel Aviving his is place in the league standing Rebounding was the key by Mescalis Outplay Hapoel 3.5 sthouads, they also pulled do sensory boards under Happel's test as the Jerusalemites the densive vs. 15 rebounds

Maccabi coach links ke the key and unite Eurol engue action, they do down and played stronger please defense in the second Unescally, Jelovac's triuming and Oded the Da arp and Oded Kalash played well in the same as round, while Katash apparently took recent critical actions play to heart - kd al to with 24 without forcing the a too much. The threesome or

nimited their opponents Hapoel's backcourt was in the: H Waldman Adi Corde Beron Shela combined for on points and didn't provide the with a serious outside in emahiling Muccahi's delene b hapire inside on Rudha (int Other results has night in Motokin 92 Macrabi Ver OTE Call Elven St. Breiler Maccabi Richan Ma Va The mounta Mit; Haprel Ha: Magnet Halon & and Grass

Mational Basiette Lag

Maccall 12 Ann

Bancoalli Te A ...
Bancoalli Te A ...
Bancoalli Harzoni
Bancoalli Harzoni NFL

> /** :: 2) The Martine M. C. London

D

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1984 5

1005 HALLES AT 15 The same of Section 1 7 W 100 30 30 30 50 M (minimum 10 world)

4 5 THE

A Secretary Mar of well ? leographical Area-

W NO FETURDE

9 Ceased (7) 11 Story-teller (8) 12 Oiled (2nag) (5) 14 Blood-vessel (4) 15 Network (8)

17 Car's back light (4-4)21 Baking dish (8)

4 Level (4) 5 Acted riddle (7) 6 Micro-organism (9)

16 Exclusive (7)

18 Pungent plant (6) 19 Athlete (6) 22 Tack (4)

III CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash 6:31 News in Arabic 6:45 Good Morning

■ EDUCATIONAL

8:00 Althouland and Herzi's Vision 8:30 Dites Mol Tout 9:00 Reading 9:25 Social Sciences 9:55 English 10:00 Programs for the very young 11:55 World Literature: Pirandello 12:30 Science 13:30 Cartoons 15:00 Musical Beethoven's Fifth

E CHANNEL 1

15:30 The Pink Panther 15:55 Super Ben 16:00 Jim, The Boy Who Became a Dog - British drama 16:25 Super Ben 18:30 The Mask 18:59 A New Eveni 17:34 Best of Zap to 1 18:05 Super Ben 18:15 News in English ARABIC PROGRAMS 18:30 Sport 19:00 News PROGRAMS 19:30 News flash 19:31 Ya-Rock - new six-part drams on the fives of Israeli high-school students 20:00 News 20:45 A Moment in Life 20:50 Popolitica 22:15 Silent Witness - BBC mystery series 23:05 Townles

00:00 Verse of the Day MI CHANNEL 2

6:15 Today's Programs 6:30 Rainbow Children 7:00 This Morning th Gabi Gazit 9:00 Rivica Michaeli 9:55 Senora 10:50 Dynasty 11:45 Medics 12:45 Israeli music 13:00 Riding High 13:30 Summer Paths 14:00 Home and Away 14:30 Tic Tac 15:00 fich and Mitch 15:28 Major Dad 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 16:50 Different Driving 17:00 Five with Refu 17:30 Running the Halls 18:00 Roseanne 16:35 Dave's World

19:00 Walker, Texas Ranger 20:00 News 20:30 Entertainment First - Dudu Topaz is 22:00 On the Table

talk show 23:30 Documentary Box: Gultar in the Sahara - on the bril-lant guitarist of the Sahara band from Netwot 00:00 News 00:05 Libeled Lady (1936) — fast comedy spoofing poor effor

A newspaper editor uses his fiancée and a freelance reporter to get the dirt on a rich heiress. With Jean Harlow 1:55 Night Music 2:45 The Piglet Papers 3:10 On the Edge of

JORDANTV 13:00 Holy Koran

Hutch

Truth 21:35 The Lany

about an out-of-work laborer in Northern 21:30 22:00

14:30 Body Electric 15:00 Basic Training 15:30 The 700 Ctro 16:00 Larry King 17:00 Flying House 17:23 Wishkid 17:45 Animation 18:10 Beakman's World 18:35 Saved by the Bell 19:00 Showbiz 19:30 World News Tonight 20:00 NHL Hockey 22:36 First Flight 23:00 CNN News version of

23:30 The 700 Club Bonham Carte on Volceno

CABLE ■ (TV 3 (33)

16:00 Carloons 16:30 | Forgot Myself - Arabic drama 17:30 Panorama 18:00 The Tyrant 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Are You Being Served? 20:00 News 20:45 Smash-Up

(1947) – an insecure nightclub singer gives up her career to merry a radio star and finds herself turning into an alco-holic. With Susan Havward 22:30 Madame de Montserrat 23:30 Entertainment

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Echo Poin 16:00 Wonder Why 18:00 Wonder Why 18:30 Science 17:00 Happy Family 17:30 Didavision 18:00 Arabic Calligraphy 18:30 Today's Health 19:00 Almeuland and Herzi's Vision 19:30 Vis à Vis 20:00 A New Evening 20:30 Through Our Eyes 21:05 Situation: Viedimir - documentary 22:00 Life on the Internet - new series on the possibilities of the internet 22:30 News Writing 23:00 The Onedin Line

III FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

7:00 Good Evening with Guy Pines (rpf) 7:30 Love Story with Yossi Siyas (rpt) 8:00 Sunset Beach (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live 9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Days of Our Lives (rpt) 11:15 Zingera (rpt) 12:00 Barnaby Jones 12:45 Due South 13:30 Frasier 14:00 Sunset Beach

14:50 Days of Our Lives 15:40 Ricki Lake 15:30 Zingara 17:15 One Life to Live 18:00 Good Evening

18:30 Local broadcast 19:00 The Young and 19:40 Beverty Hills 90210 20:25 The Other Half - dating game 20:50 The Nanny 21:10 The Naked

22:00 Yair Lapid Live at 10 22:30 Love Story with

Yossi Siyas 23:00 Seinfeld 23:25 Red Shoes Diary - erotic 00:00 The Streets of San Francisco 00:50 Barnaby Jones

CHANNEL (4) 11:30 Lethal Error (1990) - a mother will

Mel Gibson stars

as the energetic Harriet in an updated Shakespeere's tragedy. With Glenn Close, Alan Bates,

an Holm and Helens 16:50 Special Report 17:20 Treasure treasure off the

(1994) — a woman with amnesia must remember her past in Joanna Kerns 20:25 Journey of the Heart (1996) - a Texan woman discovers her autistic child has outstanding musical talent and makes great efforts to help him. With Cybill

tional medicine things get rough. With Billy Zane and Robert

mpson and Drew

6:30 Cartoons 9:40 Naftaline 9:50 What a Mess 10:05 Honey Bee 10:35 Robinson Sucro 11:05 Ninja Turtles 11:35 Superman 12:05 Hillside

Schoolbus 13:30 Little Bear Closet 14:04 Sonic

8:00 Meet the Press

19:30

20:00

20:30

21:00

22:30

23:00

Children

News flas

Ya-Rock

Moment

In Life

Popiltica

News

MOVIE

stop at nothing to . clear her son of murder charges 13:05 Raining Stones (1993) - moving drama by Ken Loach ireland who will do anything in order to get money for his daughter's confirmation thess 14:40 Hamlet (1990)

Seekers (1979) - tour adventurers seek

Jamaican coast 18:50 See Jane Run

Shepherd 22:00 First Do No Harm (1997) - TV drama about the mother of an epileptic boy who tires of conand searches for

alternative remedies. With Meryl Streep 23:35 Danger Zone (1986) – when an Airican mining engineer refuses to coop erate with his old friend and store toxic waste in the mine,

Downey Jr. 1:05 No Place to Hide (1983) - a tough cop protects a girl from a psycho-Kristofferson, O.L. Barrymore 2:45 Serial Morn

(1994) - macebre comedy with Kathleen Turner and

CHILDREN (6)

12:35 Family Matter 13:00 The Magic 13:45 Make Believe

14:35 David the Gnome 15:05 Ninja Turtles 15:35 Winehead 16:00 Hillside 16:30 Kirk 17:30 Hugo 18:00 Sweet Valley

High 15:30 Honey Bee Hutch 19:05 Robinson Sucro 19:30 Helen and the

6:00 Five Star Adventure 5:30 The Ticket 7:00 VIP 7:30 The McLaughlin

in Science

Helen and **Harves** Crysta the Boys Hills 90210 أقسائية Three's Chies of The Other ourney of Children. Entertainthe Heart Half ment First The Nature The Naked The Cosby True Story Truth **Work** The Larry Sanders Show World Nothing To On the Tab Yair Lapid First Do No with Dan Live at 10 Love Story with Yossi Styas Seinfeld

STAR SPORTS

6:00 Cricket Test Match: Pakistan vs.

9:00 Asia Sport Show

9:40 Cricket - cont 14:00 Trans World

Sport 15:00 Golf; Look at

PGA Tour 15:30 Triathlon 18:30 Asian Soccer

18:0 Golf: Omega Tour 19:00 Soccer: World

Cup Qualifiers - UAE

2:00 Asian Soccer Show

vs. Japan 21:00 Cricket: Test

22:00 Rugby 00:00 Golf; Mild

M 8BC WORLD

News on the hour

6:30 Correspondent 7:00 Newsdesk 7:30 Hard Talk (rpt)

9:30 Floyd on France 10:30 Correspondent

Sevens Tour 1:00 Triathlon

Match

Show 17:30 Cricket We

(unconfirmed)

TIME

1 2 3 3 4 5 5 3 8

20:00 Three's Company 20:25 Married with 9:00 The Today Show 10:00 European 1:30 Billiards: Cup 11:00 European 21:20 The Cosby Show 21:45 Different World Money Wheel 15:30 CNBC Squawk

PRIME

SECOND

22:10 Secret Six

of busines

find themse

(rpts) 8:05 Air Combat: The

Test Pilots (rpt) 9:00 Africa the Hard

Way, pert 2 (rpt) 9:55 J.S. Bach's Motets 11:35 Martinu: The

Bouquet 12:20 Seven Times with

12:10 Don't Fool with

Love: Far Apart
13:00 A Taste of
Africa: Morocco (rpt)
13:30 Travelogue (rpt)
13:55 Cultural Chies

of China, part 3 (rpt) 14:50 Women, A True

Story, part 3 (rpt) 15:45 Waitress (rpts) 18:10 Human Nature

University - Men and Women Talking;

Consent: Sociological

19:35 Travelogue 20:05 Cultural Cities of China, part 5

21:00 Women, A True

Story, part 4 21:55 Nothing to Hide – the history of

women's bathing cos-

umes as an indicator

of changes in women's status 22:45 Human Nature

23:35 Open University – Human Quest; Personal

Finance; Interactions

M NBC SUPERCHANNEL

Imagination 19:05 A Taste of

17:00 Open

16:30 Flavors of France 17:00 Gardening by the Yard 17:30 Awesome (1931) - star-studded gangster movie about a secret organization Priors 18:00 Time and Again 19:00 National emen who Geographic Television: Borned are out to trap gang-ster leaders. With Clark Beyond the Grave Gable, Lewis Stone and Jean Harlow 23:40 St. Benny the 20:00 VIP 20:30 The Ticket 21:00 World Series Dip (1951) - three con artists masquer-23:00 Sest of The Tonight Show with ade as ciencs and Jay Leno 00:00 Late Night with changed for the better by their brush with religion (80 mins.) Conan O'Brien 1:00 Best of Later

1:30 NBC Nightty News 2:00 Tonight Show (rpt) 3:00 Internight M CHANNEL 6 6:00 Open University

M STAR PLUS 6:30 Star News 7:00 Oprah Winfrey 8:00 Videotashion 8:30 Yes, Minister 9:00 Nine To Five 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Santa Barbara 12:00 WWF 13:00 The Wonder

13:30 Small Wonder 14:00 Hindi shows 17:30 Star News 18:00 Fawity Towers 18:30 The Jewel in the Crown 19:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara 21:00 Star News 1:30 The X-Files 22:30 Star Trek 23:30 Vegas 00:30 Oprah Wintrey

III CHANNEL 5

Journal

Villa 20:45 Volleyball 21:40 English League Soccer 00:00 Boxing

■ EUROSPORT

9:30 Sailing: Whitbread Race

10:00 Alpine Skiing 11:00 Soccer: MLS

Cup Final 13:00 Truck Racing

14:00 Speedworld

00:00 Eurogoals

Magazine 16:00 Tennis: ATP Tour

III CNN

INTERNATIONAL 6:30 Bodies in Motion 16:30 National League Basketball 18:15 International 19:15 English Soccer

- Arsenal vs. Aston

8:30 Managing with Lou Dobbs 9:00 CNN This Moming 9:30 World Sport 10:30 Showbiz This Week 11:30 CNN Newsroom 12:30 World Sport 13:30 American Edition 13:45 Q&A (rpt) 14:30 Managing with Lou Dobbs 15:15 News & Business Asia 16:00 Impact 17:30 World Sport 18:30 Showbiz This

19:30 Style 20:45 American Edition 21:30 World **Business To** 22:30 Q&A with Riz Khan 23:00 European No 23:30 Insight 00:00 World Business Today 00:30 World Sport 1:00 World View 2:30 Moneyline

RADIO

M VOICE OF MUSIC

6:06 Morning Concert e:05 Morning Concert 9:05 Debussy: String quartet op 10 (Alban Berg Ot); Claude Bolling: Suite for cello and jazz piano trio); Sibelius: 2 Serious Matterioris Melodies for violin and orch; Janacek: Taras Bulba; Enescu: Legend; Partos: Makamat for flute and string quartet 12:00 Light Classical

– songs by Richard
Rodgers sung by
Julie Andrews Frederica von Stade Kiri Te Kanawa, Mario Lanza, Jose Carreras 13:00 Artist of the leek - soprano Cilla Grossmeyer, Tzippi Fleischer, Lamentations for

11:30 Hard Talk (rpt) 12:30 Top Gear (rpt) 13:00 Newsdesk 14:30 Bloom or Bust 15:15 Work! Business Report 15:30 The World Today 16:30 Airport (rpt) 17:30 Hard Talk soprano, women's choir, 2 harps and 17:30 Hard Talk 18:30 Style (rpt) percussion; Oskar Blarr: Songs for soprano, harp and organ; Christmas songs 14:06 Encore

19:30 Tomorrows 20:00 The World Today 21:30 Hard Talk (rpt) 22:00 Window on Europe 23:30 The Travel Show 00:00 Newsdesk &

Business Report 1:10 Newsnight

News throughout the day 6:30 Moneyweek 7:05 CNN This Morning 7:30 Global View (rpt) 8:00 CNN This Morning

15:00 Cycle of Works - The Romantic Concerto 16:00 Early music 17:00 Etnahta repeat broadcast from Henry Crown Jerusalem. (1) Four Hands sing Schubert and Brahms. Dan Ettinger, baritone and piano, Arnon Erez piano. Schubert: 7 Songs, Fantasy In F minor for piano 4 hands D940; Brahms: Waltzes for piano 4 hands op 39, 8 Songs. (2) Anat Etrati, soprano; Dan Ettinger, plano. Works by Schubert, Hugo Wolf, Richard Strauss, Kurt Weill, Mordechal Zeira,

Sasha Argov 19:00 Rainbow of Sounds 20:05 Dvorak: Plano trio in E minor op 90 Dumky ; Mozart: Symphony no 33 21:00 A Matter of Agreement 23:00 Just Jazz

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Unbearable Lightness of Being 7 - The
Step 9:30 - Austin Powers 10 G.G. Gill.
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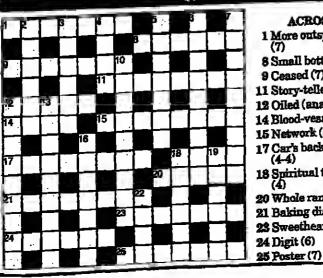
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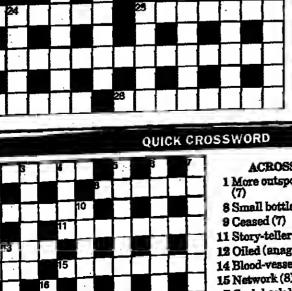
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All times are p.m. unless otherwise indi-



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Naval-raid fiasco report due today

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The military committee, headed by Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ofir, investigating the failed raid into south Lebanon by naval commandos last month in which 12 Israeli servicemen were killed, is expected to hand in its final report this

Military sources said that Ofir's committee investigated possible deficiencies by intelligence and operation officers, but these had no direct bearing on the failure of

the September 4 commando raid. It also ruled out initial suspicions of an intelligence leak to Hizbullah or the Lebanese Army. It appears that the Ofir committee is reasonably certain that the commando squad tripped a bobby trap set near the village of Ansariya, and their own demolition explosives decimated them later.

The Flotilla 13 raiding party, led by Cmdr. Yossi Kurakin, reportedcarried out the landing and approach to Ansariya without mishap and the intelligence infor-

mation given to them was accurate. The army has said that the commandos' mission was to lay explosives, but foreign reports said they were on their way to kidnap a senior Amal militiaman.

Halfway through their approach, bad luck struck the 16-member force and one member of the team set off a road-side charge. That charge was apparently laid by Hizbullah in a routine safety measure. It reportedly killed Kurakin and wounded others. A second charge then exploded which set

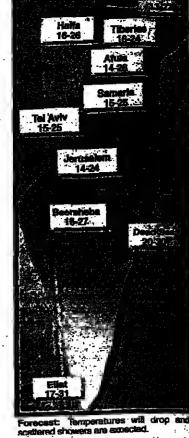
off a demolition charge carried by 3PO Itamar Ilya. Those two explosions subsequently killed or wounded most of the force. Only the radioman remained uninjured. It was a full twenty minutes later that Hizbullah and later Amal militiamen and Lebanese Army troops began to open fire on the force, 11 of whom were already dead. In the subsequent rescue operation, Maj. Dagesh Maher, a doctor, was killed. The body of Ilya could not be found and the Lebanese Army later said they

Offir inquiry are to be given to family members of the dead.

While not relating to the specific Navy raid, military sources said that the chances of a charge malfunctioning and and exploding are slim. But they said that explosives carried on the backs of soldiers could be set off by external elements. The Ofir inquiry also addresses the testimony of six Navy officers, including Brig.-Gen. S, the head of Navy intelligence. It is not clear whether the

held his remains. Copies of the committee will recommend disciplinary action be taken against these officers or if any will be dismissed. Ofir's report comes as the defense ministry holds its biannual review of the security situation

in Lebanon. Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is hosting top IDF commanders today in the shadow of 39 soldiers killed this year with the current tactics of initiated actions from static and often exposed positions across the secu-



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In yesterday's first daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the jack of clubs, the 8 of hearts, the jack of diamonds, and the 10 of spades.

In the second drawing, the winning cards were the 9 of clubs, the jack of hearts, the 7 of dramonds, and the ace of spades.

Knesset back in session after 3-month break

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset gets back to work today after a three-month recess, with the start of the winter ses-

"We're starting off at full volume. All the issues dividing the country will come up in the first week. I expect a stormy sitting and a hot winter." Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon told parlia-

mentary reporters yesterday.

Before today's opening, Tichon will call on party whips to keep tempers calm within their factions. Several no-confidence motions are on the agenda today, and a vote will be taken on a motion which was debated until the early hours of July 30.

The bill would grant Beduin in the south retroactive building rights in several areas. Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi turned the vote into a motion of no-confidence to delay its passage. Today's opening session is the first opportunity to hold a vote.

The vote will be followed by a traditional political speech by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. Both Meretz and Labor have said they hope to turn the vote on his policy statement into a motion of no-confidence. even if it means delaying a vote

A no confidence motion needs - 61 votes to pass, which is unlikely to happen. If it did, it could result in new elections for the Knesset and prime minister.

Tichon said yesterday he favors a national unity government as the best possible forum to handle the weighty issue of negotiating a permanent settlement with the Palestinians.

Also on the agenda this week is the first reading of the proposed 1998 budget.

Tichon said that the Religious Councils Law cannot be brought to a first vote this week because of the budget debate which must

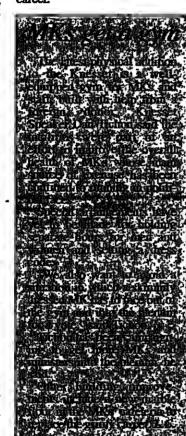
Other issues scheduled to come no in the winter session include a

second anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, scheduled for November 12, the selection of a president and state comptroller whose terms expire by the spring, voting on further IDF redeployments and debating the relationship between the Knesset and judiciary.

Tichon intends to go ahead with

a plan to institute an Israeli equivalent of parliamentary question time in which ministers would have to answer queries from MKs without preparation.

Tichon said he intends to continue a trend of making the Knesset "younger and livelier." Labor's Moshe Shahal is expected to resign next month after a 26-year parliamentary



Affies in war on drugs

Israel Police Chief Supt. Zafrir Goren confers yesterday with Palestinian Police officers (from left) Amal Abu Fanama, Mohammed Ali Abu Draze, Khader Jaber Ali, and Baker Ahmed Maharam at the start of a two-week course in drug identification at Kibbutz Ramat Rahel. Six Gaza policemen are in the course, which aims to help fight the drug trade.

Poll: Religious-secular relations will get worse

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Two-thirds of Israelis believe that relations between religious and secular here will only get worse in the future, according to a poll taken recently by the Zionist Council in Israel.

The poll also found that three of four adult Israelis and two out of three young people feel the need for a Zionist movement in Israel. However, among young people, only half those polled described

themselves as Zionists, compared to two-thirds of the adults.

In addition, half of those polled believe that many young Israelis today have almost no connection to their traditions or Jewish identity.

The poll taken for the council, which is affiliated with the World Zionist Organization, was conducted by the Smith-Institute during the last week in August. It. included 600 adults and 200 young people aged 14-18, and had a 4% margin of error.

Among its other findings:

 More than half of the adults polled feel close to or identify with Diaspora Jewry, and only a third teel distant from it.

· Some 80% support encouraging immigration to Israel, although this figure dropped a bit in the 19-

29 age group.
Slightly less than half of the adults polled favor amending the Law of Return, while 38% oppose

this. Only 39% of the young peo-ple polled support amending the

law. A total of 72% of observant Israelis favor amending it.

· Three out of four adults polled are opposed to and cannot justify ation from Israel, with just 19% justifying it. Young people were less critical of emigration,

with 27% justifying it. 70% never considered emigrating, while 20% do not rule out the idea. Potential for emigration was highest among the secular, those between 19-29, and those who immigrated here after 1988.

Matza agrees to allow added health charges

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza has grudgingly agreed to a socalled Arrangements Law that will allow health funds to charge extra for certain medical treatments and

Sources said that the ministry had proposed increasing the health tax instead of adding itemized charges. But the government thought that raising the price of the health basket would be more unpopular than charging extra for certain medicines, the sources said.

"We had no choice but to agree," Health Ministry director-general Prof. Gabi Barabash said. "We know it's far from the ideal."

There is concern that anger over additional fees could trigger appeals to the High Court of Justice. Some health funds may also find themselves unable to refuse to provide treatment to members who either refuse or cannot afford to pay.

Meanwhile, a further delay was made in plans to include psychiatric services in the health basket the latest of several delays in the last two years in implementing the plan, Barabash said. But a January I deadline has been set for including mental health in the basket, he said. The system is intended to remove some of the stigma attached to seeking psychiatric

The original version of the Arrangements Law would have given health funds unlimited leeway in adding extra charges for certain treatments, services and medications

But Barabash said that "an apparams for setting the ceiling (in prices) has been agreed." He said that in cases where Matza and Finance Minister Yaacov Neeman disagree over setting a maximum price, the government would step

The Health Minister has also been empowered to make sure that the disadvantaged receive dis-

The Health and Finance Ministries meanwhile decided to continue negotiations over how to cover a NIS 1.3 billion deficit in the bealth system that has remained unresolved for more than a year.

Woman pilot fights to fly for El Al

By JUDY SIEGEL

High Court urged to ban

smoking on airplanes

The Society for the Prevention of Smoking, El Al and Arkia stewards yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice against Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy for failing to carry out a commitment to bar smoking during flights up to five hours long.

Lawyer Amos Hausner, representing the petitioners, wrote in his brief that the minister has yet to impose the restrictions he promised back in May when the petitioners made their first appeal to the High Court. In the meantime, airline attendants exposed to large amounts of cigarette smoke during flights were running 12 times the risk of contracting tobacvascular diseases than the regular population, Hansner wrote.

Hausner alleged that Levy has even allowed certain flights to offer larger smoking sections: stewards on El Al flights to Kenya have been told to add five more rows of seats for smokers, he said. In addition, Levy has allegedly

not responded positively to a request by Canadian Transport Minister David Anderson to bar smoking on flights between Israel and Canada. Transport Ministry spokesman

was negotiating to get other airlines to ban smoking as well as El He estimated it would take about

Avner Ovadia said the minister

a year for smoking to be banned co-related lung cancer and cardio- on all flights to and from Israel.

By BATSHEYA TSUR El Al is refusing to hire an Israeli

woman pilot who has chalked up thousands of flying bours, because she has not served in the air force. Orit Katzir, who is in her thirties, has 10 years' flying experience and is currently a commercial pilot in the US, where she flies the advanced Airous passenger plane. She also holds an Israeli commer-

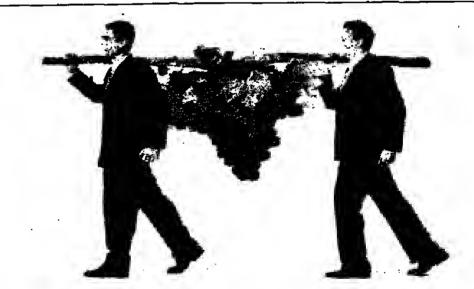
cial flying license. The Association for Civil Rights in Israel appealed yesterday to the National Labor Court to order El Al to employ her, on the grounds that she had been discriminated against because of her sex. ACRI also noted that a male immigrant who had not served in the air force

works as a pilot for El Al.

The appeal followed an earlier petition by Katzir to the Tel Aviv District Labor Court, asking that El Al make public its conditions for accepting pilots.

Katzir first applied to El Al in 1993 and asked to participate in a preparatory course for potential pilots. She was turned down, but no reasons were given. When she met with then company head Rafi Har-Lev, he told her that only air force veterans were accepted.

Until a recent High Court of Justice ruling, no women were accepted for flight training in the air force. Yesterday, ACRI asked on behalf of Katzir that El Al change its policy and that it compensate her for damages. After a lengthy debate, the court postponed its decision until a later date.



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IRAN Continued from Page 1

Contending that Israel is the only country in the world "against which a contract has been taken out for its destruction," Netanyahu charged

the Iranians are preparing ballistic weapons as well as combat aircraft.

evident in Israel's ties to Russia. He

"It is clear that we are the first target and we do not intend to sit still and do nothing," he said. Levy disclosed several concrete examples of the positive momentum

said the joint committee on political dialogue will renew its work in Moscow next month and that Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Possavalink will conduct a follownp visit to promote the Israeli-Russian dialogue.

Reporting on his talks in

Damascus on Saturday with President Hafez Assad and his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Shara, Primakov said Syria wants to renew negotiations with Israel, but "not from point zero, but from the stage they were at in the previous